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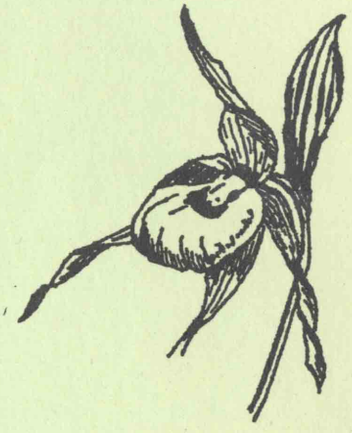
DIRECTORY OF INDIANA'S DEDICATED NATURE PRESERVES



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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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DIRECTORY OF INDIANA'S DEDICATED NATURE PRESERVES

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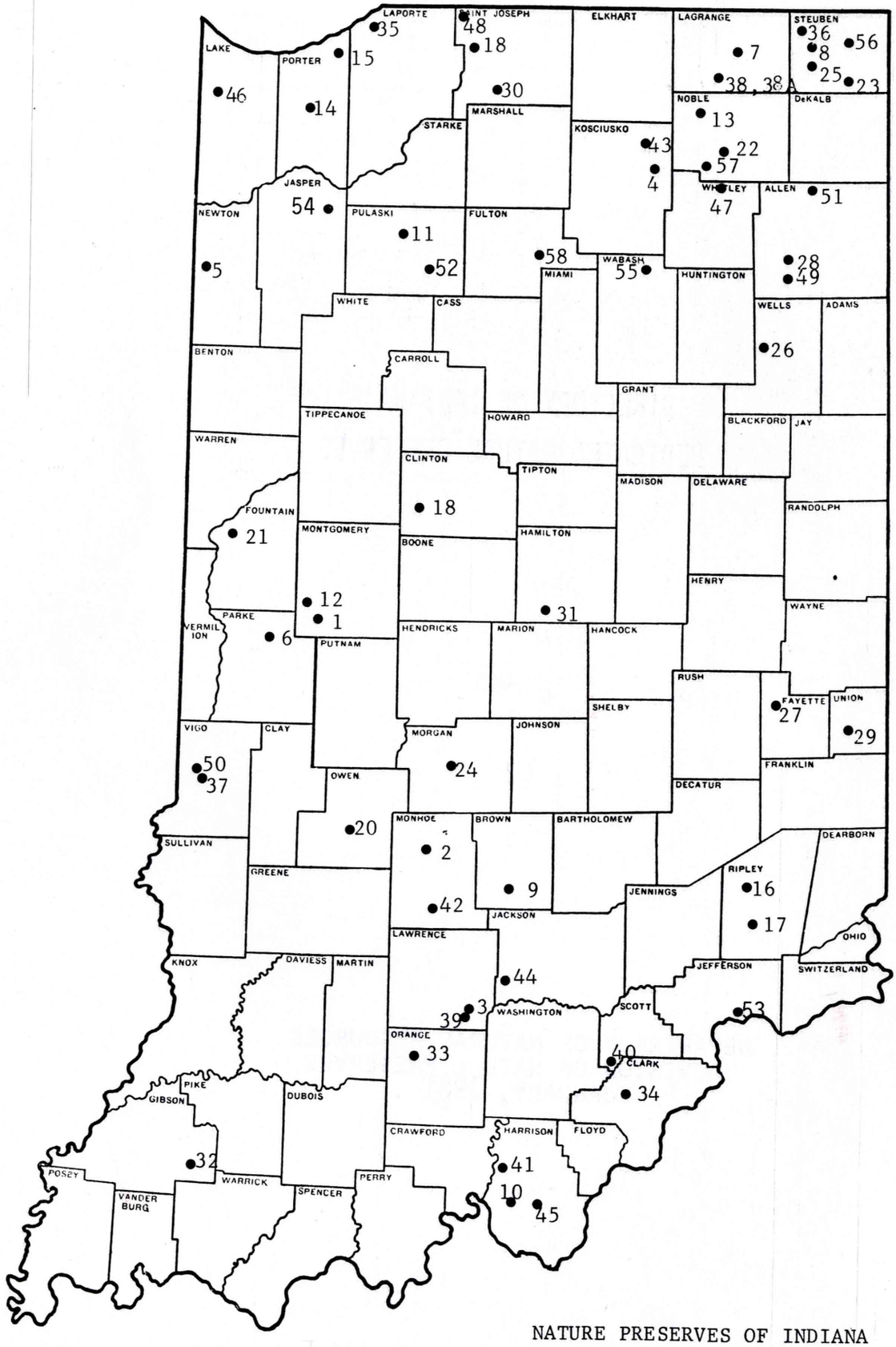


NATURE PRESERVES OF INDIANA
STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

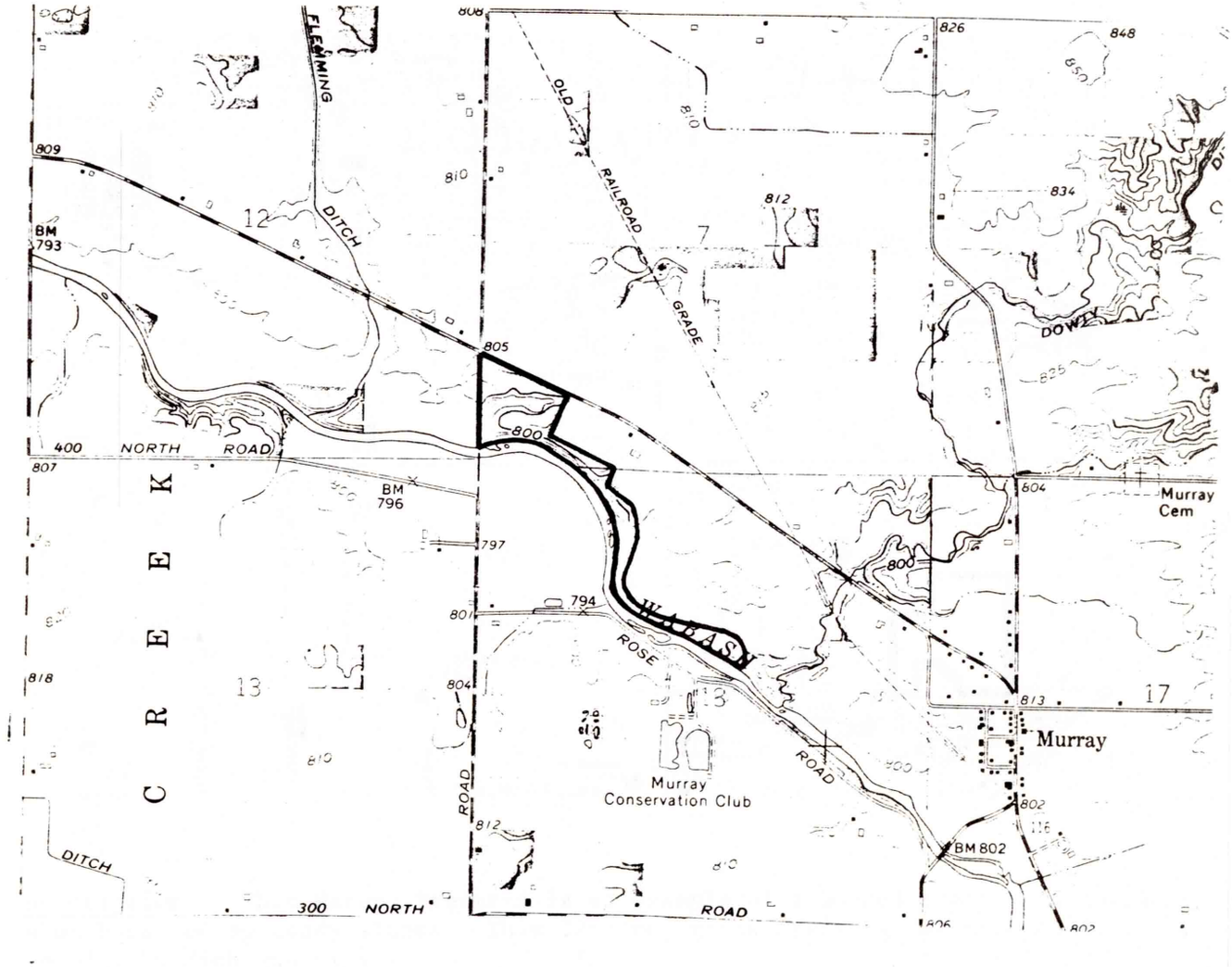
INDIANA DEDICATED NATURE PRESERVES

NAME	MAP#	COUNTY	SIZE (acres)
Acres Along the Wabash	26	Wells	27
Barker Woods	35	LaPorte	32
Beaver Lake	5	Newton	640
Beechwood	8	Steuben	89
Bender, Lloyd W.	22	Noble	60
Bendix Woods	19	St. Joesph	27
Berns-Meyer	52	Pulaski	20
Bitternut Woods	31	Hamilton	22
Blue Bluff	24	Morgan	32
Bryan, Eunice H.	18	Clinton	29
Cedar Bluffs	42	Monroe	23
Clifty Canyon	53	Jefferson	179
Crooked Lake	47	Whitley	91
Dogwood	17	Ripley	20
Donaldson Cave	39	Lawrence	6
Donaldson's Woods	3	Lawrence	67
Dobbs, John G.	37	Vigo	25
Dunes	15	Porter	1530
Fogwell Forest	49	Allen	28
Fox Island	28	Allen	220
Grider's Woods	4	Kosciusko	10
Hayswood	45	Harrison	36
Hemlock Bluff	44	Jackson	44
Hemmer Woods	32	Gibson	72
Hoosier Prairie	46	Lake	304
Hornbeam	29	Union	37
Laketon Bog	55	Wabash	32
Laughery Bluff	16	Ripley	81
Little Bluestem	50	Vigo	9
Manitou Islands	58	Fulton	107
Merry Lea	57	Noble	189
Moraine	14	Porter	193
Ogle Hollow	9	Brown	41
Olin Lake	38	LaGrange	206
Orangeville Rise	33	Orange	3
Pedestal Rock	12	Parke&Fountain	833
Pine Hills	1	Montgomery	470
Portland Arch	21	Fountain	253
Post Oak-Cedar	10	Harrison	42
Potawatomi	25	Steuben	208
Rocky Hollow Falls Canyon	6	Parke	404
Rodenbeck, Albert D.	51	Allen	49
Ropchan Memorial	36	Steuben	77
Ropchan Wildlife Refuge	56	Steuben	157
Sandhill	11	Pulaski	60
Scout Mountain	41	Harrison	40
Scout Ridge	2	Monroe	15
Shrader-Weaver	27	Fayette	96
Spicer Lake	48	St. Joseph	38
Spurgeon, Edna W.	13	Noble	60
Swamp Rose	30	St. Joseph	100
Tamarack Bog	7	LaGrange	100
Tefft Savanna	54	Jasper	480
Virginia Pine-Chestnut Oak	40	Scott	24
Wawasee Wetlands	43	Kosciusko	17
White Oak	34	Clark	143
Wolf Cave	20	Owen	214
Woodland Bog	23	Steuben	20

Acres Along the Wabash Nature Preserve

County: Wells
Size: 27 acres

Map: Uniondale Quadrangle
Ownership: Acres, Inc.



Location: This Nature Preserve lies on the Southwest side of State Highway 116, approximately one and a half miles Northwest of Murray.

Description: This property in Wells County borders the North bank of the Wabash River for a distance of three-fourths of a mile. On the alluvial bank there are scattered large specimens of Red Oak, Bur Oak and Sycamore, along with Silver Maple, Cottonwood, Black Willow and Box Elder. Wafer Ash, Bladdernut and Black Haw are interesting shrubs and Shooting Stars and Mallow are found on the river bottom.

The West portion of the 27 acres in the Nature Preserve has a second-growth stand of mixed hardwoods, with high frequencies of Sugar Maple, Black Maple and Red Elm. Associated trees are Red Oak, Green Ash, Hickories, White Oak, Basswood, Hackberry, Buckeye and Beech.

Fox Squirrels, Chipmunks and Woodchucks are common residents of the woodland. The tracks of Raccoon and Muskrats are indented in the soft mud along the river. Wood Ducks often flush from the pools that are created by limestone riffles.

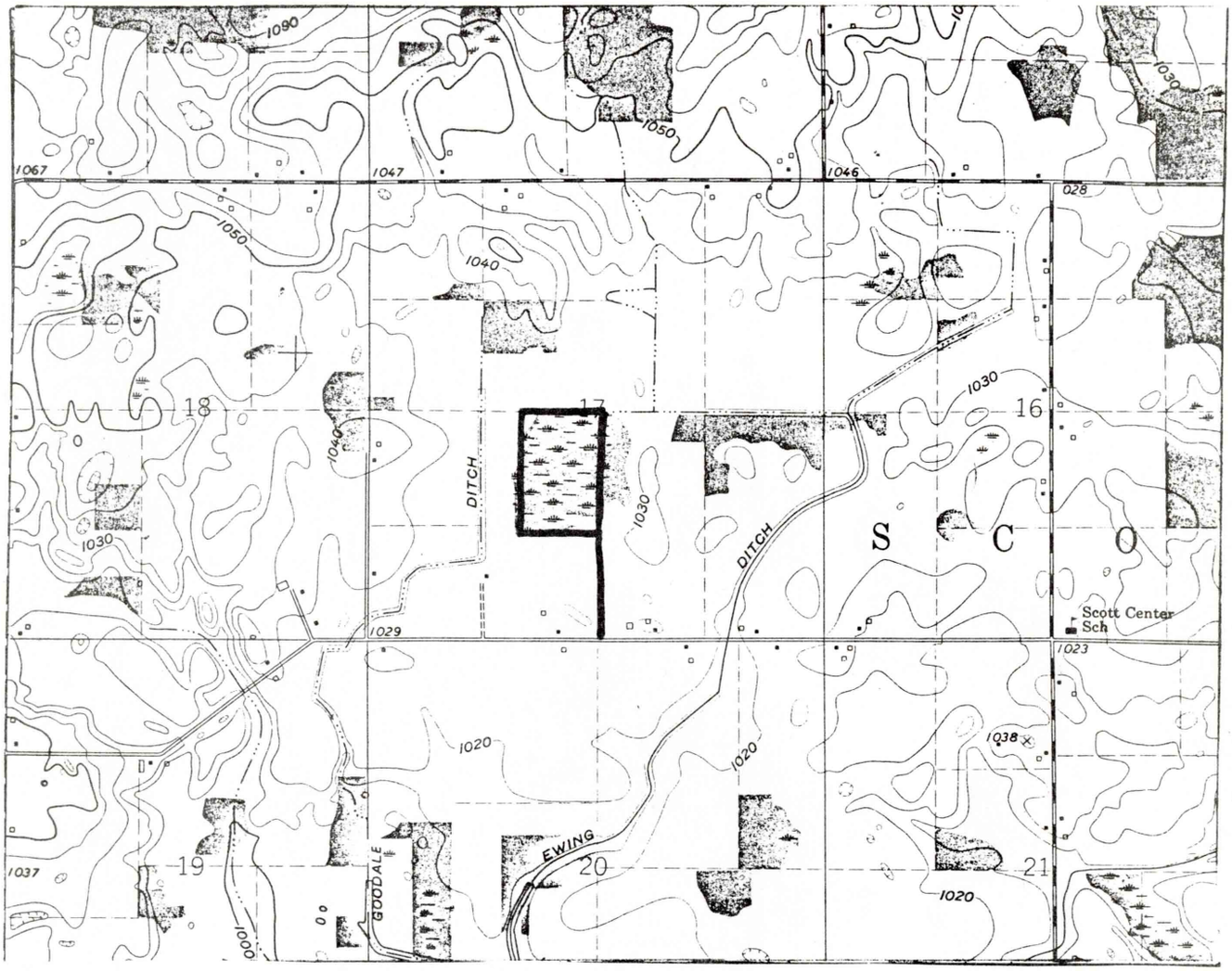
Acres, Inc., owns and manages this tract, as a gift from Rolland and Catharine Maxwell.

Access and further information: An established nature trail traverses this property. Further information may be obtained from Acres, Inc., 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Woodland Bog Nature Preserve

Couty: Steuben
Size: 20 acres

Map: Angola East
Ownership: Acres, Inc.



Location: This property is located approximately three and a half miles Northeast of Angola, one-half mile East of the intersection of County Roads 200 East and 100 North.

Description: This former peat bog in Steuben County has passed through the successional stage into a swamp-forest dominated by Soft Maple, Wild Black Cherry, Red Elm, Pin Oak, Swamp White Oak and Largetooth Aspen. A few Tamarack trees still stand as evidence of their former dominance when the site was seasonally ponded with water.

Prickly Ash, Wild Grape, Virginia Creeper and Highbush Blueberry grow in profusion above mats of Swamp Dewberry. Other areas, with tussocks formed by the roots of fallen trees, are covered with dense growths of Cinnamon Ferns and Royal Ferns. Red baneberry, club moss and Canada Mayflower are of particular interest along with the more common fragile, sensitive and Rattlesnake Ferns, Jewelweed, tall Bellflower and the ever-present Stinging Nettle.

This 20-acre property is also owned and managed by Acres, Inc., and was made possible by a gift from Dr. Burtis E. and Dr. Bernice E. Horrall.

Access and Further information: An established trail exists on this property and further information may be obtained from Acres, Inc., 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserve, Room 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

stabilize the soil on adjoining slopes. One old field in the Northeastern part has several large beds of Clubmoss.

Several typical forest associations are found here. Beech dominates cool slopes with associates of Red Oak, White Ash, Tulip, Sugar Maple and Hackberry. In narrow valleys, Sycamore, Red Elm and Black Walnut increase in numbers. Drier uplands have Chinquapin Oak, Red Oak, White Oak and Shagbark Hickory.

Access and further information: Trails 5 and 6 of the State Park transverse this Nature Preserve. Further information may be obtained from the property manager of McCormick's Creek State Park, R.R.#1, Box 28, Spencer, Indiana 47460 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Wolf Cave Nature Preserve

County: Owen
Size: 214 acres

Map: Gosport Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks

Location: This Nature Preserve is located in McCormick's Creek State Park and is marked on the State Park map available at the gate house or park office.

Description: Wolf Cave and Littens Branch in McCormick's Creek State Park are not as widely known as the geological features and more spectacular scenery along the Main gorge in the other part of this property. The longer walk on Trail 5 has preserved its natural beauty from the heavier public use at more accessible places.

Wolf Cave is a small underground passage for water that enters from a wet weather stream and emerges a short distance below into a secluded valley. However, one feature of geological significance has escaped attention.

At the point where the flow emerges, a collapse in the limestone ceiling has occurred for a short distance and caused the formation of an adjoining natural bridge. This phenmenon, over which the trail passes, has a larger opening than the much more publicized Portland Arch in Fountain County.

Small waterfalls and low rock outcrops are found along Littens Branch, and large sinkholes in the uplands further diversify landforms.

Mosses, Liverworts and Walking Ferns have established their niche communities on limestone talus. Stonecrops, Hepatica, Christmas and Fragile Ferns help to

Maidenhair, Fragile, Rattlesnake and Christmas Ferns, as well as Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Wild Ginger, Toothwort, Wild Yam, Virgina Dayflower, Wild Geranium, May Apple and Jewelweed.

The 143 acres have acid erodable soils, best suited for forestry purposes. Small rocks and finer material can be seen in the ephemeral stream beds bordering the higher "Knobstone" area.

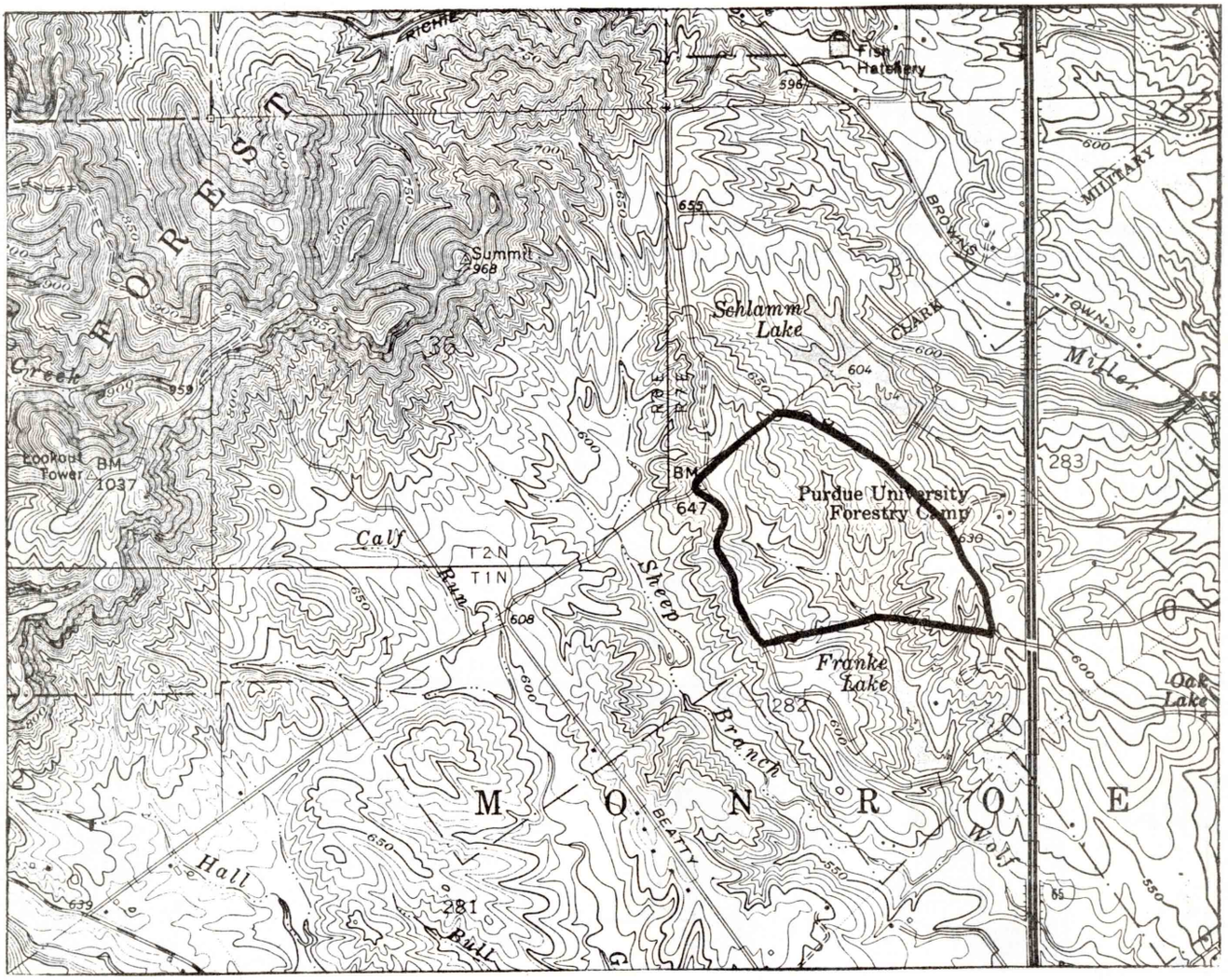
Clark State Forest is the oldest forest operated by the Division of Forestry of the Department of Natural Resouces, having been acquired in 1903. The entrance to this Nature Preserve adjoins Franke Lake. A self-guiding trail, nearly one mile long traverses it.

Access and further information: A self-guiding nature trail with 25 marked stations has been established on this property. Further information may be obtained from the property manager of Clark State Forest, Henryville, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves,Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

White Oak Nature Preserve

County: Clark
Size: 143 acres

Map: Henryville Quadrangle
Ownership: Forestry



Location: White Oak is located in Clark State Forest and can be reached by following the main forest road to the first road left after crossing an overpass above I-65. The Nature Preserve is located to the West from this corner.

Description: This tract in Clark State Forest is an appropriate name for a Nature Preserve with White Oak as the dominant tree. However, it also supports a good variety of Red, Black, Scarlet Oak, Post Oak and Chestnut Oak, along with Pignut, Shagbark Hickory and Bitternut Hickorys. The Oak-Hickory forest type, with scattered native Virginia Pine, provides an interesting natural area.

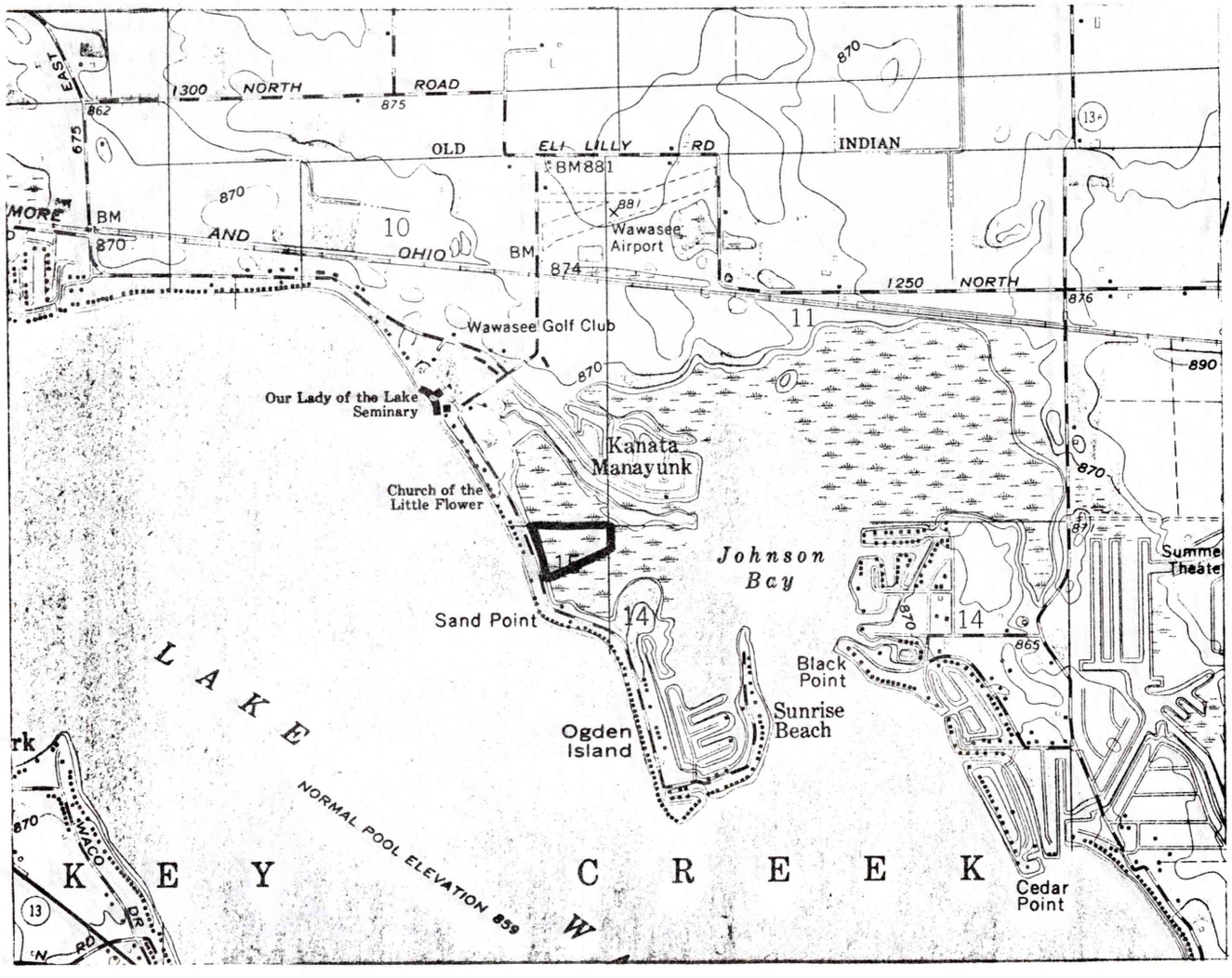
Understory trees and shrubs are Flowering Dogwood, Juneberry, Roundleaf, Greenbrier, Virginia Creeper and Pasture Rose. Dryland Blueberry clumps indicate the acid condition of the soil.

These diversities contribute to a varied display of wildflowers in accordance with exposures and soil moisture. Dry sites have Pussytoes, Spring Beauty, Shooting Star, Orange Hawkweed, Phlox, Firepink, Bluets and Goatrue. Mesic sites have

Wawasee Wetlands Nature Preserve

County: Kosciusko
Size: 17 acres

Map: Lake Wawasee Quadrangle
Ownership: Fish and Wildlife



Location: This Nature Preserve is located in part of the Western portion of Johnson Bay in Lake Wawasee.

Description: The area consists of open water, Cattail marsh, Sedge meadow and a small island. Cattail, Spatterdock, Arrowhead and Sedges are the common aquatic plants. On drier ground on and near the island Leatherleaf, Buttonbush, and low Wild Gooseberry are found in the shrub layer. The dominant tree is Red Maple, along with scattered Black Willow.

The area is important for fish, wildife and waterfowl. Muskrats live there, fish spawn in the shallow water, and waterfowl find a spot to rest and feed. Although the area is protected from hunting, shooting and fishing, the high productivity and refuge qualities of the area will insure that animals can replenish their numbers and afford hunting and fishing opportunities elsewhere.

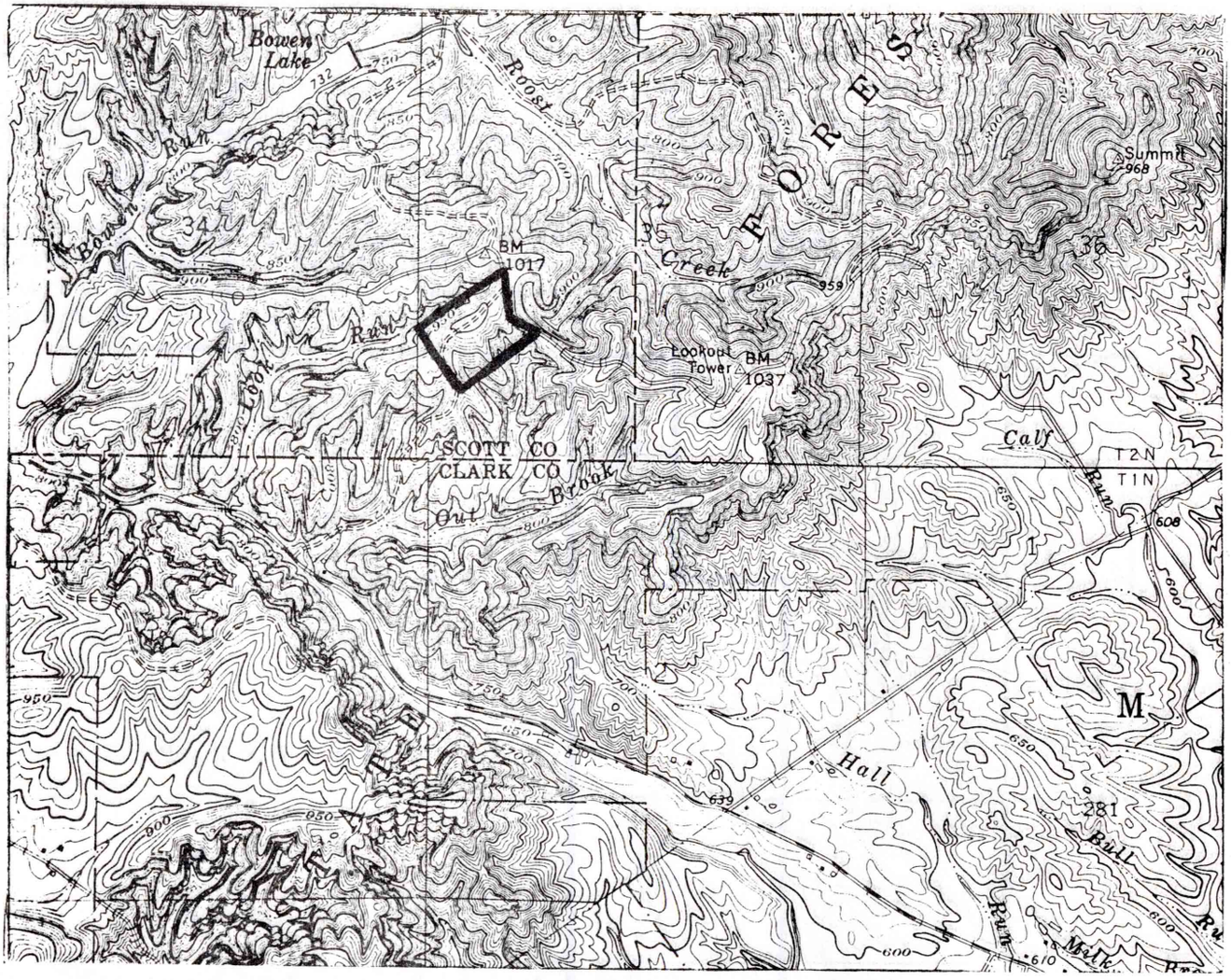
Access and further information: This area is entirely surrounded by private property and therefore permission must be obtained to enter. Further information may be obtained from the wetlands biologist at Tri-County State Fish and Wildlife Area, R.R.#2, Box 395, Syracuse, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserve, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Access and further information: There are presently no trails or parking facilities for visitors and persons desiring to visit this area should first check with the property manager of the State Forest. Further information can be obtained from the property manager of Clark State Forest, Henryville, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Virginia Pine - Chestnut Oak Nature Preserve

County: Scott
Size: 24 acres

Map: Henryville Quadrangle
Ownership: Forestry



Location: This Nature Preserve located about one half mile west of the Clark State Forest lookout tower.

Description: Altough it is located in Scott county this 24-acre tract is part of Clark State Forest. The land there is extremely hilly and is formed upon lower Mississippian sandstones, shales, and limestones. This area of the State is known as The Knobs.

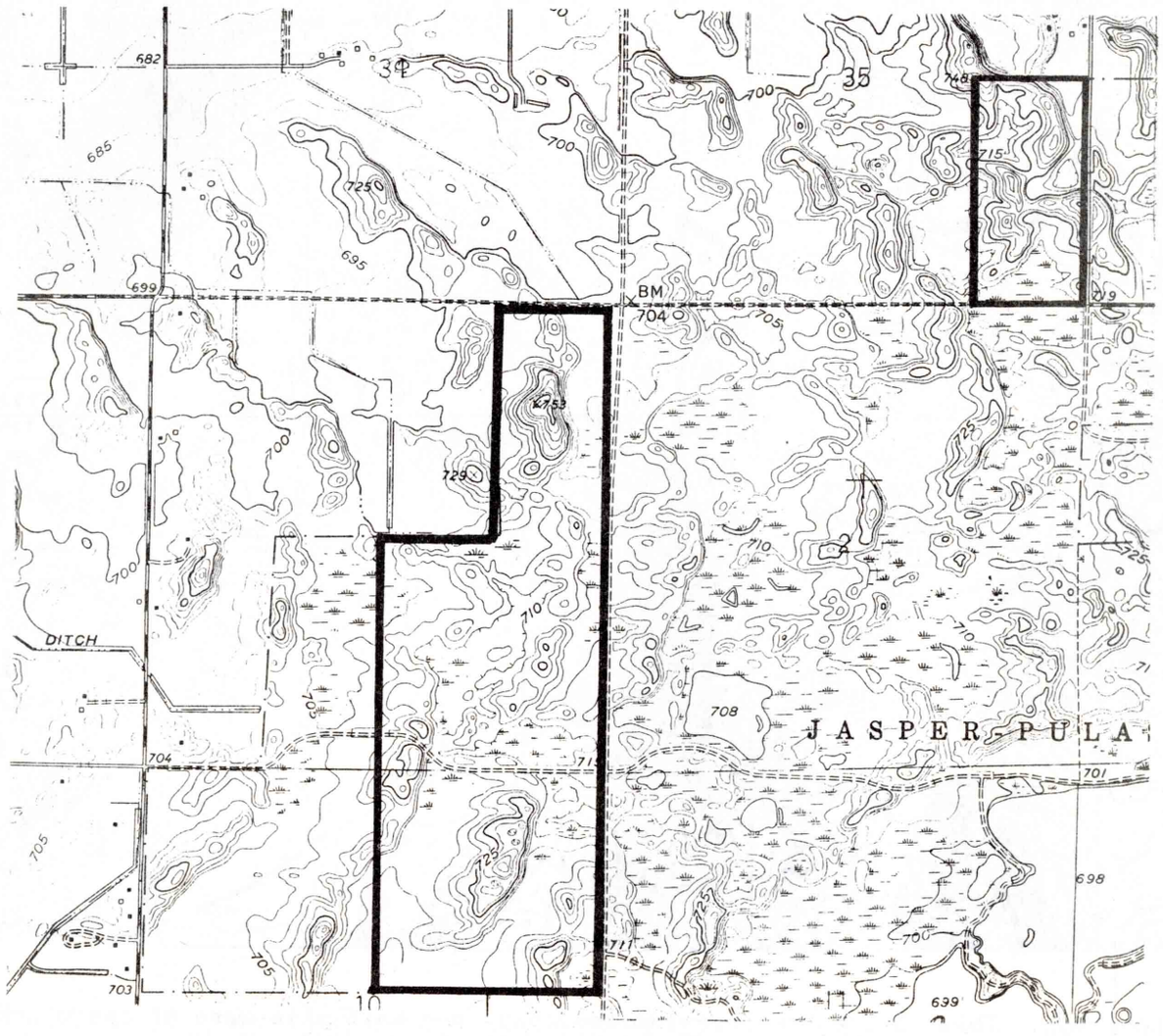
The Virginia Pine-Chestnut Oak Nature Preserve includes a ridge top and surrounding slopes. The forest is predominantly Virginia Pine on top and Chestnut Oak on the lower slopes. Virginia Pine is not common in Indiana, and seems to be confined only to the Knobstone Region in Floyd, Clark and Scott Counties.

Midway down the slope there is a transition zone between the two dominant trees. White Oak and Scarlet Oak mingle with the Virginia Pine and Chestnut Oak. The understory is quite sparse. Much of it is Greenbriar, Poison Ivy, Dogwood and Sassafras seedlings.

TEFFT SAVANNA NATURE PRESERVE

County: Jasper
Size: 480 acres

Map: San Pierre Quadrangle
Ownership: Fish and Wildlife



Location: This preserve is located in the northwest portion of Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area. Two disjunct tracts are included.

Description: Tefft Savanna Nature Preserve supports a complex of community types which are now rare in Indiana. Sand dunes support black oak savannas, some of which have mesic prairie openings. The lower portions between the dunes are acid sand flats and depressions. The flats have a black and pin oak overstory with an understory of blueberry, huckleberry and a variety of herbaceous species. The depressions are a complex of sedge meadows, wet prairies, and marshes.

The preserve contains numerous rare plants, many of which are Atlantic Coastal Plain Disjuncts. Most of these occur in the wet depressions. Besides the rare plants, Tefft Savanna has several species of unusual reptiles and mammals.

Access and further information: There are no established trails on this preserve. Several property parking areas provide access to the preserve. Visitors are asked to check in at the property office before entering the area. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Property Manager, Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area, RR 1, Box 166, Medaryville, Indiana 47957 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Dogwood and Bush Cinquefoil.

Dwarf Birch is another interesting shrub. Emergent plants and floating aquatics border the part of Pigeon River impounded by Mongo Millpond.

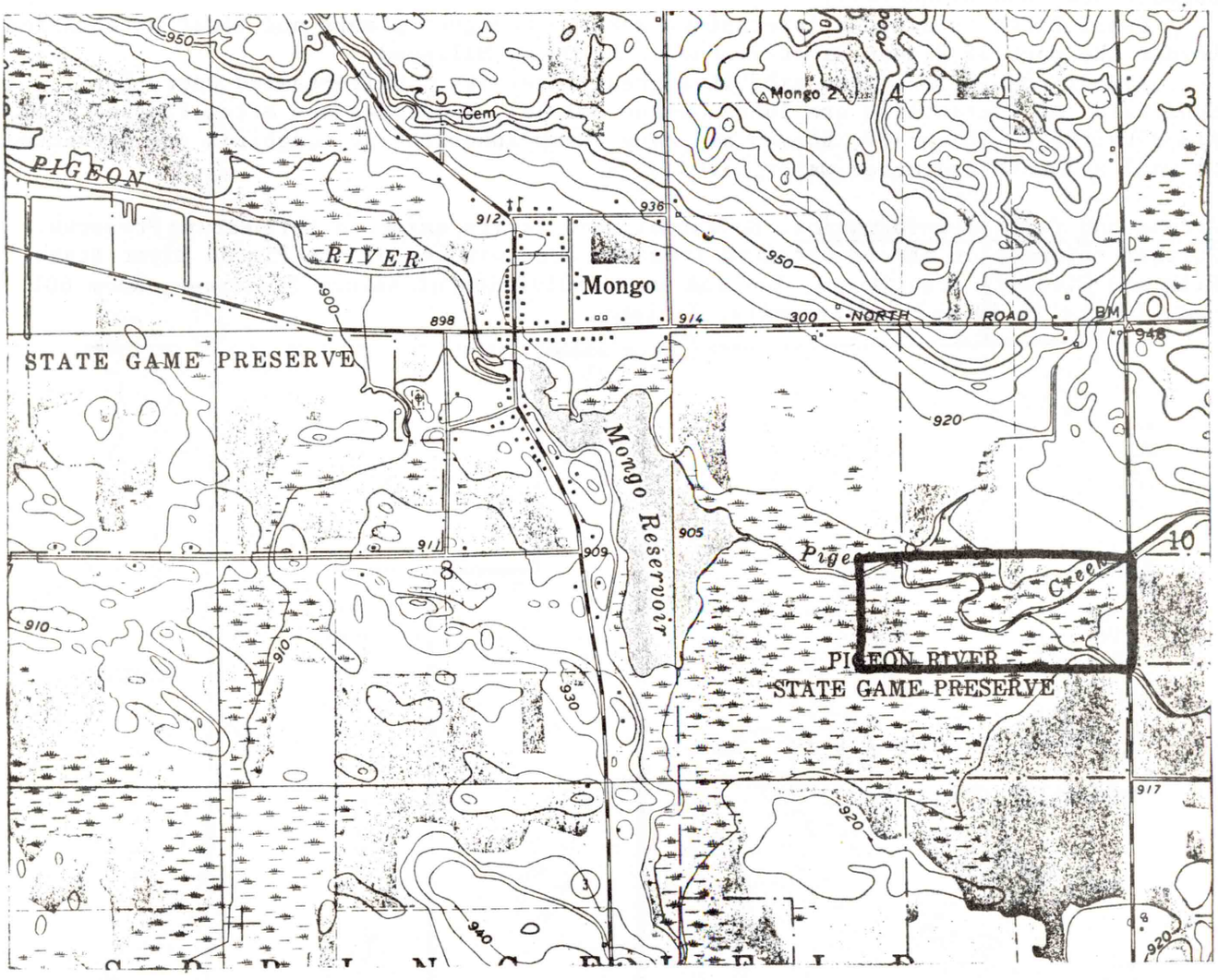
Faunal populations also exhibit a great diversity. White-tailed Deer, Fox Squirrels and Cottontails are found on the upland. Woodcocks are often flushed from Alder thickets. Muskrats, Beaver and many swamp-inhabitating songbirds are attracted, as well as Ducks and other water birds.

Access and further information: No established trails exist in this Nature Preserve. Further information may be obtained from the area manager of the Pigeon River State Fish and Wildlife Area, Mongo, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Tamarack Bog Nature Preserve

County: Lagrange
Size: 100 acres

Map: Mongo Quadrangle
Ownership: Fish and Wildlife



Location: Take road 300N East from Mongo to road 900E. Then go South and across Pigeon Creek to a pull-off on the West side of the road.

Description: Tamarack (American Larch) is found at the Southern limit of its range in Indiana. Although it extends South of this location, this stand on the Pigeon River State Fish and Wildlife Area in LaGrange County is the largest remaining one in the State.

It contains a diversity of plant communities. One finds from East to West a small field in the early stage of forest reversion. This is bordered by a lowland stand of Black Oak, Red Elm and Largetooth Aspen.

The shrub layer has clumps of High and Low Bush Blueberries, Prickly Ash and Hazelnut. Bracken Fern dominates the ground cover.

Bloody Run, a small stream annually stocked with Trout, meanders through this part and is flanked by clumps of Royal Fern, Cinnamon Fern, and Skunk Cabbage.

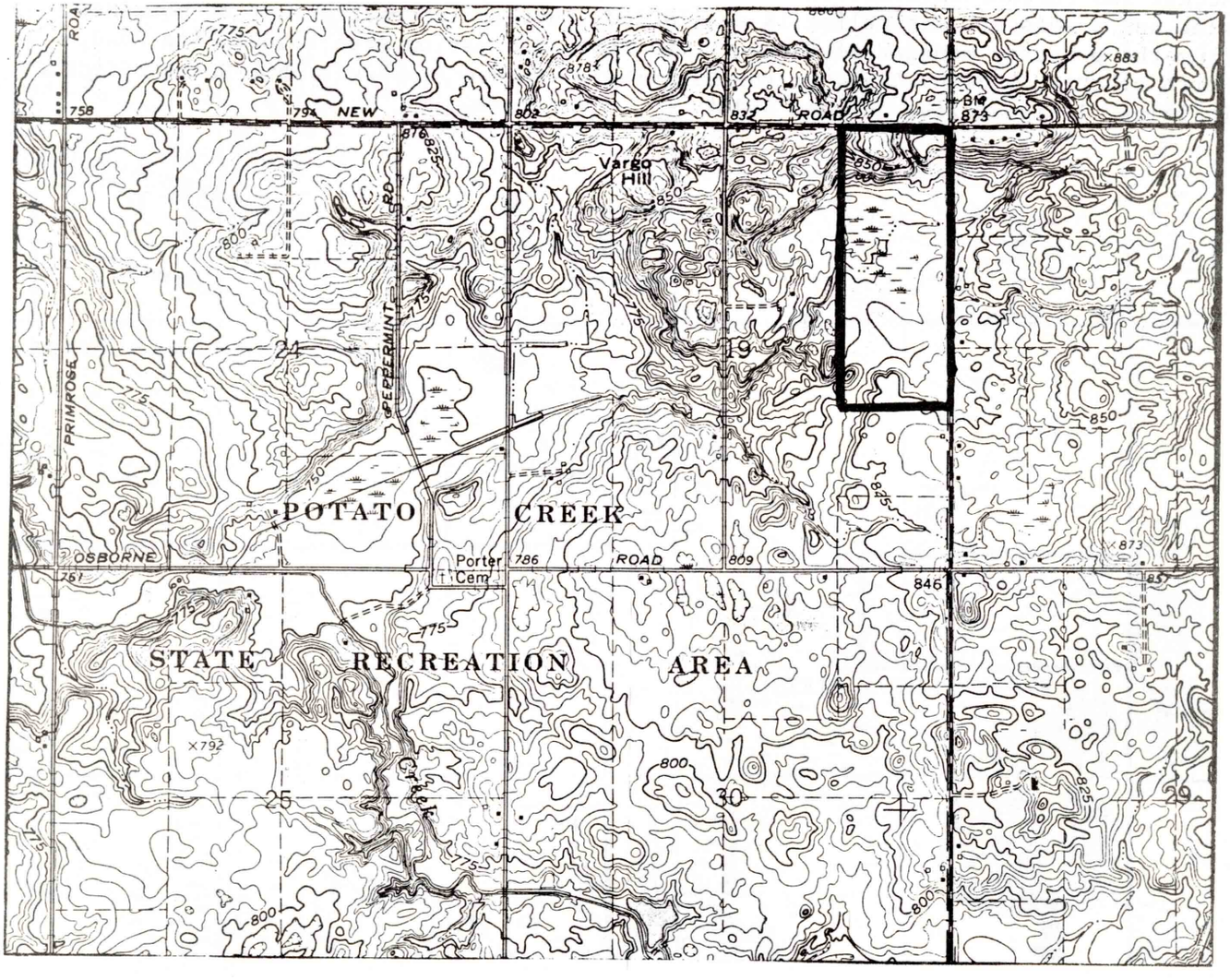
As the water table reaches the top of the sandy soil, Red Maple, Spotted Alder, Trembling Aspen and Tamarack dominate. Tamarack increases as sphagnum-covered hummocks appear. The bog then opens up with scattered Poison Sumac, Swamp Rose, Gray

Access and further information: An established hiking trail winds through this area and a seasonal naturalist is available. Further information may be obtained from the property manager of Potato Creek State Recreation Area, 65601 Pine Road, North Liberty, Indiana 46554 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Swamp Rose Nature Preserve

County: St. Joseph
Size: 100 acres

Map: Lakeville Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: This Nature Preserve is located in the Northeast corner of Potato Creek State Recreation Area.

Description: This State Nature Preserve in St. Joseph County has both geological and biotic features. There are round-topped hills, known as glacial kames, and lower outwashes characteristic of an era when ice extended into Indiana during the Pleistocene Epoch. The low ground, with seasonal standing water, was originally a pasture, most of which is reverting into a shrub swamp type, with Swamp Rose clumps as the prominent cover. There are dense colonies of Rushes, Sedges, Cattails, and Grasses, denoting different hydroseric zones. Marsh Marigold, Blue Flag, Jewelweed and Bittercress add color to this plant community.

An adjoining moist terrace supports a woodland gradating from Silver and Red Maples, Green Ash and Red Elm in the wettest portion to Beech, Sugar Maple, Wild Black Cherry, Tulip, Red Oak and Bitternut Hickory at slightly higher elevations.

Animal signs indicate a good Raccoon and Whitetail Deer population. It is also an attractive habitat for Woodcock and Jacksnipe. Minnows and aquatic organisms are found in a seasonal rill.

Shade-tolerant Sugar Maple dominates the understory, followed by a high incidence of Ironwood. Soils on the better drained ridges and slopes support False Solomon's Seal, Meadow Rue, Violets and Trilliums, while depressions have Stinging Nettle, Jewel-weed, Skunk Cabbage and other herbs.

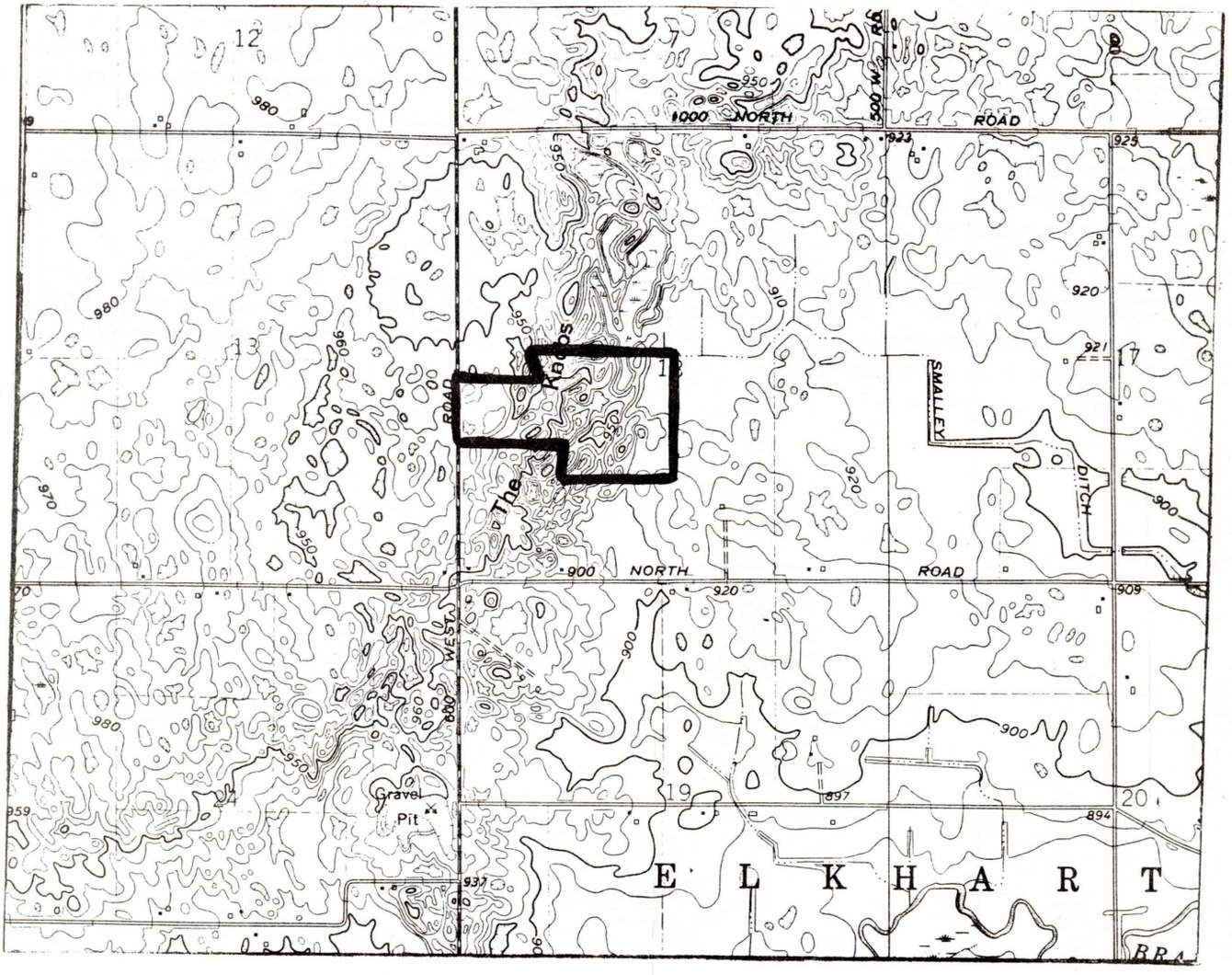
Sixty acres of the Spurgeon tract have been dedicated as the second Nature Preserve owned by Acres, Inc. This organization uses volunteer help from members for maintenance. Nature trails are marked so that school groups and other interested persons can visit it.

Access and Further Information: Marked nature trails have been established in this Nature Preserve. Further information may be obtained from Acres, Inc., 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Edna W. Spurgeon Nature Preserve

County: Noble
Size: 60 acres

Map: Ligonier Quadrangle
Ownership: Acres, Inc.



Location: This property is located about three miles Northeast of Ligonier. Go North from U.S. 6, two and one-half miles on County Road 600W.

Description: The physiography of this tract in the Northeastern Morainal Lake Area is of particular interest. It is locally identified as The Knobs. The rolling upland has some small kames, resulting from glacial deposits.

A diversity of past land use practices has created a site varying from old fields to sizable forest stands. An entrance trail leads through a bluegrass field being invaded by Hawthorns, Sumacs, Blackberries, Elms and Wild Black Cherry.

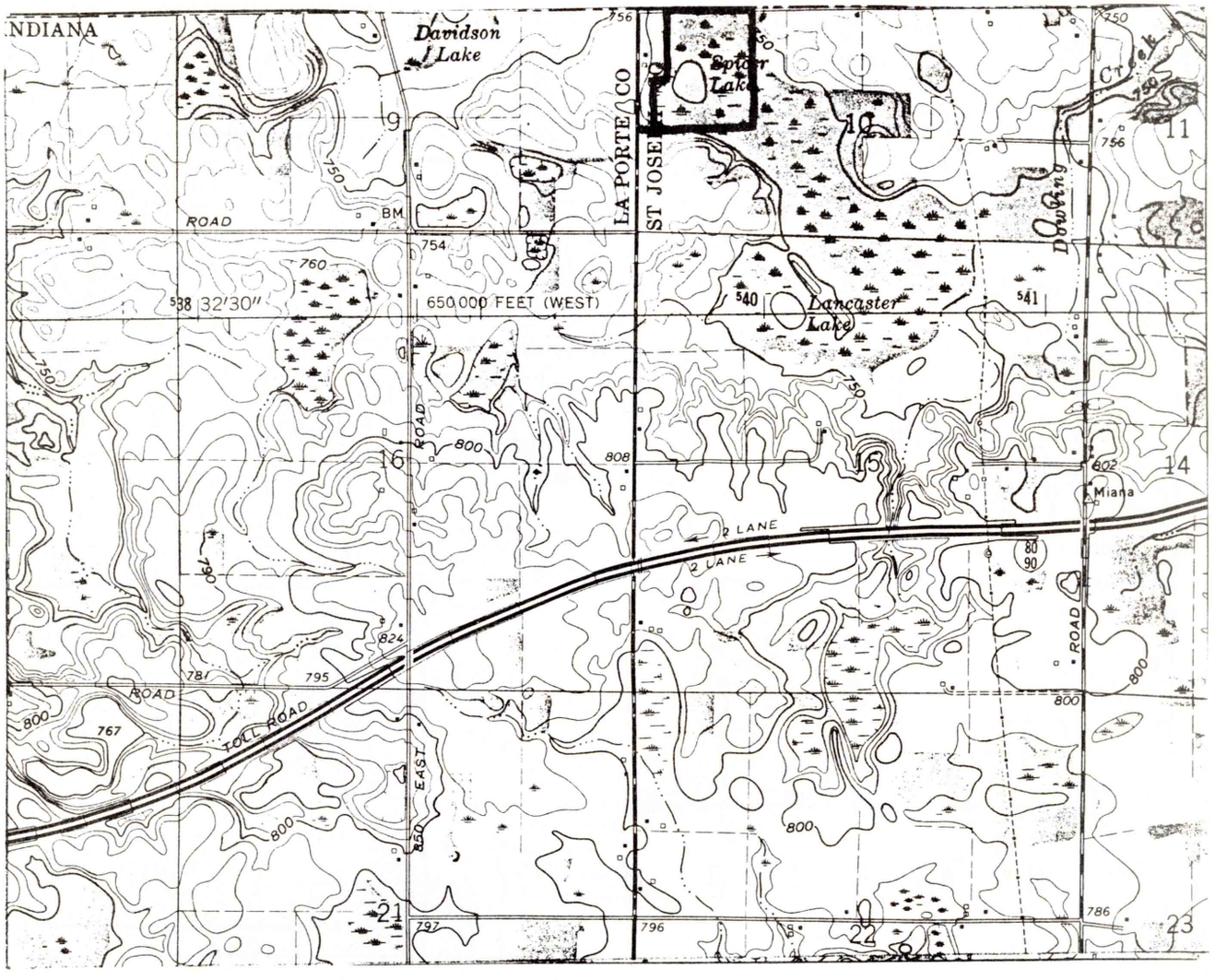
The adjoining Beech-Maple woods may be divided into two units. The Western side, which was grazed some years ago, contains some older Beech but lacks a dense understory.

The eastern portion, with low ridges and moist troughs, supports a fully-stocked second growth stand of Beech and Maple, with the usual associates of Green Ash, Tulip, Red Oak, Basswood, Hackberry and Wild Black Cherry. There are many dead American Elm, but Red (Slippery) Elm is still present.

Spicer Lake Nature Preserve

County: St. Joseph
Size: 38 acres

Map: New Carlisle Quadrangle
Ownership: St. Joseph County Park and Recreation Board



Location: This Nature Preserve is located just east of the LaPorte - St. Joseph County line near the Indiana - Michigan Border.

Description: Spicer Lake is a pothole lake formed by the melting of a block of ice left behind when the last glacier retreated from Indiana. Five areas of open water remain in the central area surrounded by marsh which is ringed by a series of successional stages culminating in a Red Maple Swamp.

Tree species include Red Maple, Sassafras, Black Ash, Cork Elm and Choke Cherry with Spicebush, High Bush Blueberry, Swamp Rose, Red Osier and Alternate-leaved Dogwood being important in the Shrub layer. Herbaceous species of note include Swamp Loosestrife, Turtlehead, Canada Mayflower, Partridge Berry, and Yellow Pond Lily.

Access and further information: No developments exist at present although a nature trail is planned for the future. An interpretive center is also planned for that portion of the county park lying outside the Nature Preserve. Further information may be obtained from the St. Joseph County Park and Recreation Department, R.R. 2, Box 72A, New Carlisle, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

having superior qualities.

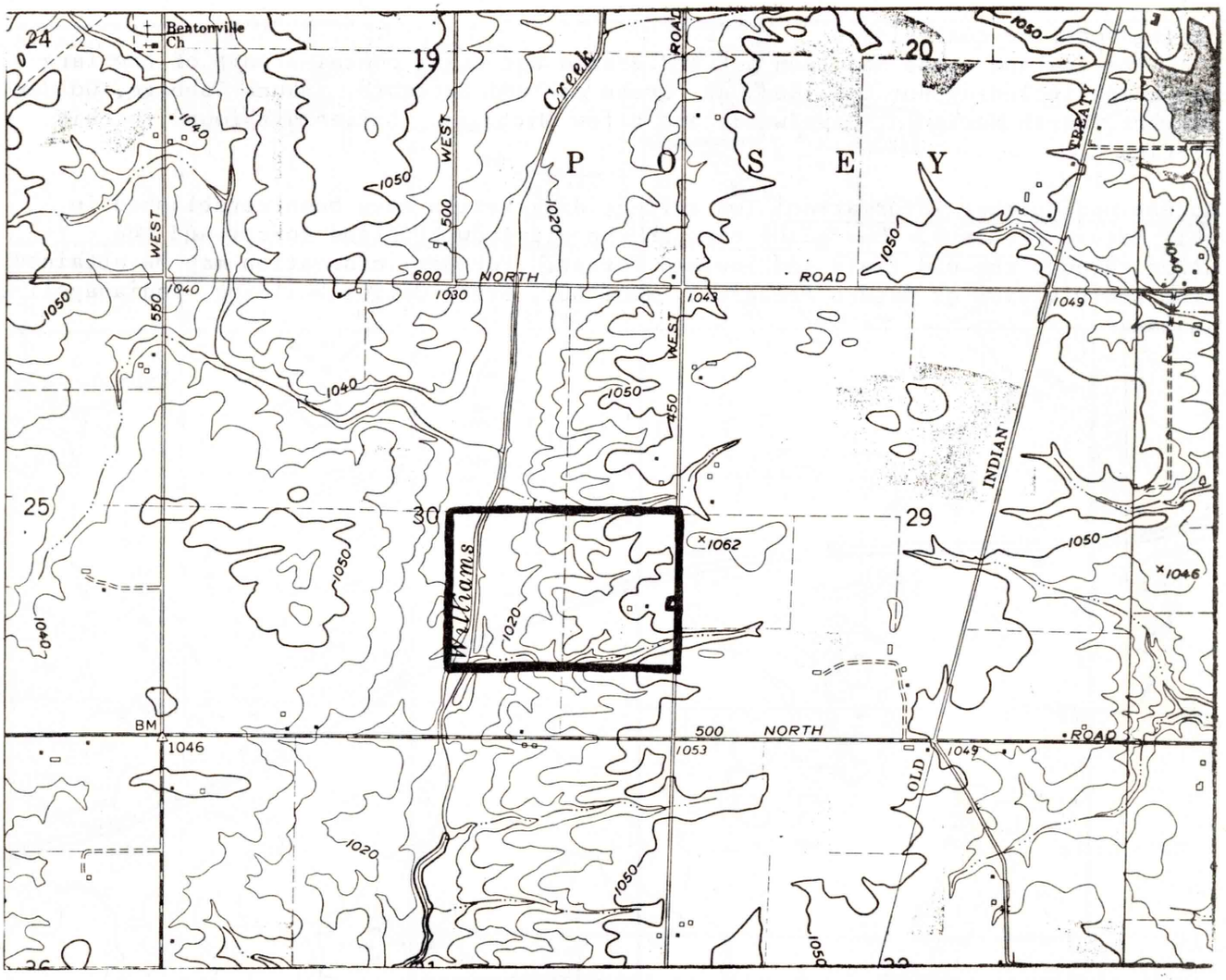
The lowland woods has been cut and grazed but still contains some of the largest trees including Bur Oak, Red Oak, Green Ash and Sycamore. Skunk Cabbage, Golden Ragwort, Marsh Marigold, Jewelweeds and a few Michigan Lilies are found in this portion.

Access and further information: Two self-guiding trails have been established in this Nature Preserve. One going through the old-growth upland forest and the other through the old field and lowland forest. Further information may be obtained from the Division of Nature Preserves. Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Shrader-Weaver Nature Preserve

County: Fayette
Size: 96 acres

Map: Connersville
Ownership: Nature Preserves



Location: From Bentonville go one mile East on County Road 700N, then one and three-fourths miles South on County Road 450W to a marked parking lot.

Description: Shrader-Weaver contains a pioneer homestead, open fields, and wooded tracts and is included in the National Registry of Natural Landmarks.

An old-growth, upland forest of 28 acres is dominated by Beech-Maple and contains large specimens of Tulip, Wild Black Cherry, Black Walnut, Red Elm, and Bur Oak. Pawpaw, Running Euonymus, Woodbine, Elderberry, Spicebush, and Black Haw comprise the shrub layer while the forest floor is carpeted with Salt-and-Pepper, Squirrel Corn, Dutchman's Breeches, Cut-leaf Toothwort, Trout Lily, Trilliums and Bloodroot.

The old field area is now being invaded by woody species and illustrates the successional trend to a forest community. Hayes Regional Arboretum and Earlham College have planted Black Walnut in this area using seedlings from selected trees

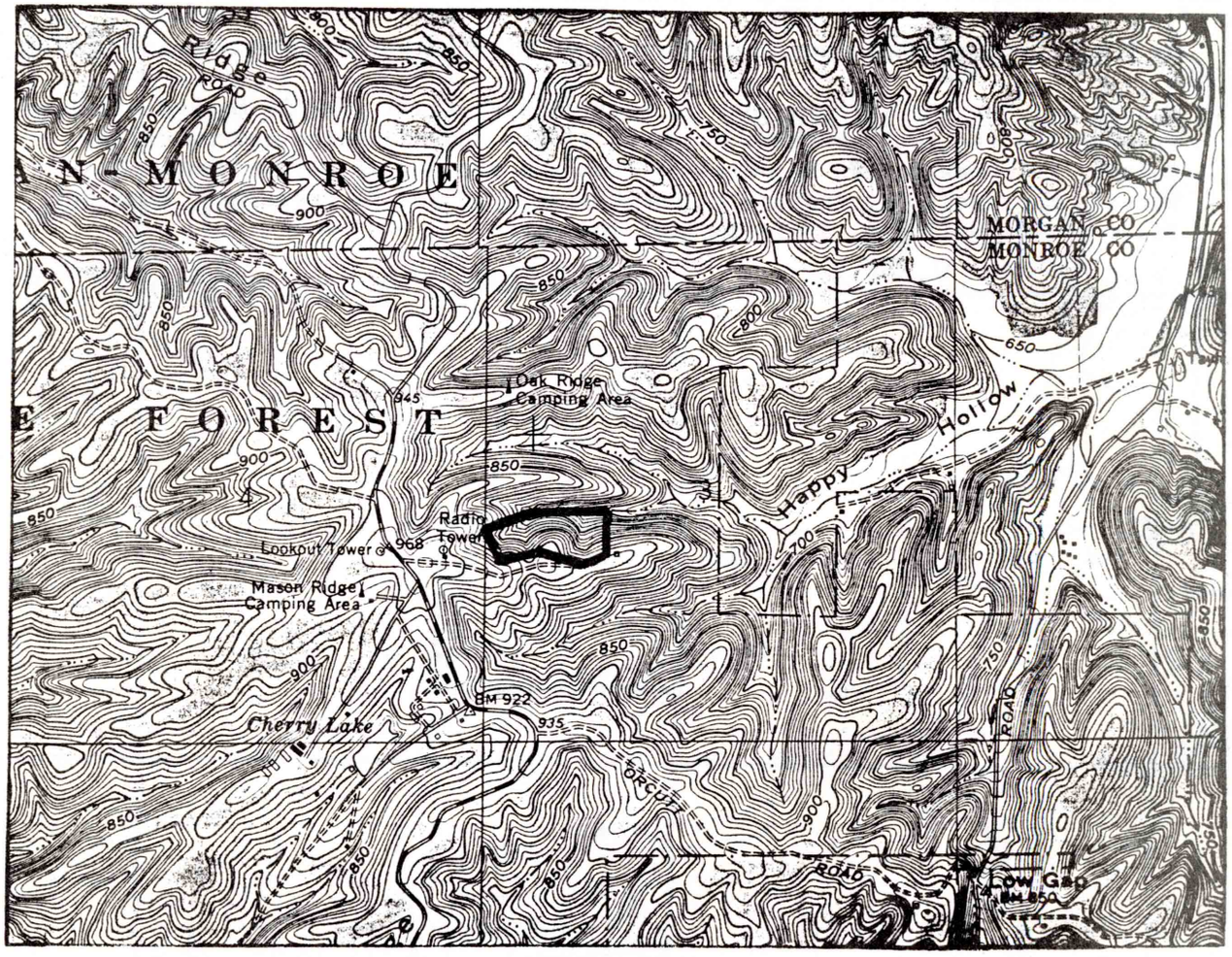
in the streambed while bedrock consists of Mississippian sandstones and shales.

Access and further information: A self-guiding trail with 27 marked stations transverses the cool northern exposure slopes and adjoining narrow valley. Further information can be obtained from the manager of Morgan-Monroe State Forest, Martinsville, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Scout Ridge

County: Monroe
Size: 15 acres

Map: Hindustan Quadrangle
Ownership: Forestry



Location: This Nature Preserve is located south of Martinsville in Morgan-Monroe State Forest and is reached by following the main forest road to just north of Fire Headquarters and then going east on the first road to a routed sign.

Description: Beech-Maple is the dominant forest type found on much of this tract but oak-hickory forest is found on the western edge and on the east slope the area tends toward a mixed mesophytic forest although beech-maple still predominates. The largest tree is a 42-inch diameter beech and some Sugar Maple, Black Oak, Hackberry and Ash are 30 inches or better d.b.h. (diameter breast height).

The understory is dominated by Spicebush, Pawpaw, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Red Elm, and Sugar Maple. A variety of plants comprises the ground cover. These include seven different ferns and many Spring and early Summer wildflowers.

Scout Ridge is on the edge of the Illinois glaciation and the glacier extended only into the valleys without leveling the hills. Glacial boulders are present

Scout Mountain Nature Preserve

County: Harrison
Size: 40 acres

Map: Corydon West Quadrangle
Ownership: Forestry

Location: See the "access and further information" section below.

Description: Although Indiana Nature Preserves are typically designed for public use and enjoyment, there are instances where public visits and preservation are found to be incompatible. This is the case at Scout Mountain State Nature Preserve for several reasons. First, this 40-acre tract located in the hills of Harrison-Crawford State Forest has no access either by road or by trail. Second, the tract was set aside to protect a cave that is a wintering site for 100,000 Indiana Bats, listed federally as an endangered species. Third, the cave entrance consists of a 32-foot pit that is exceedingly hazardous. A fence has been erected around the entrance, but there are hazards nonetheless.

Access and further information: Entry into this Nature Preserve is only by permit to qualified scientists. Anyone desiring further information may write to the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

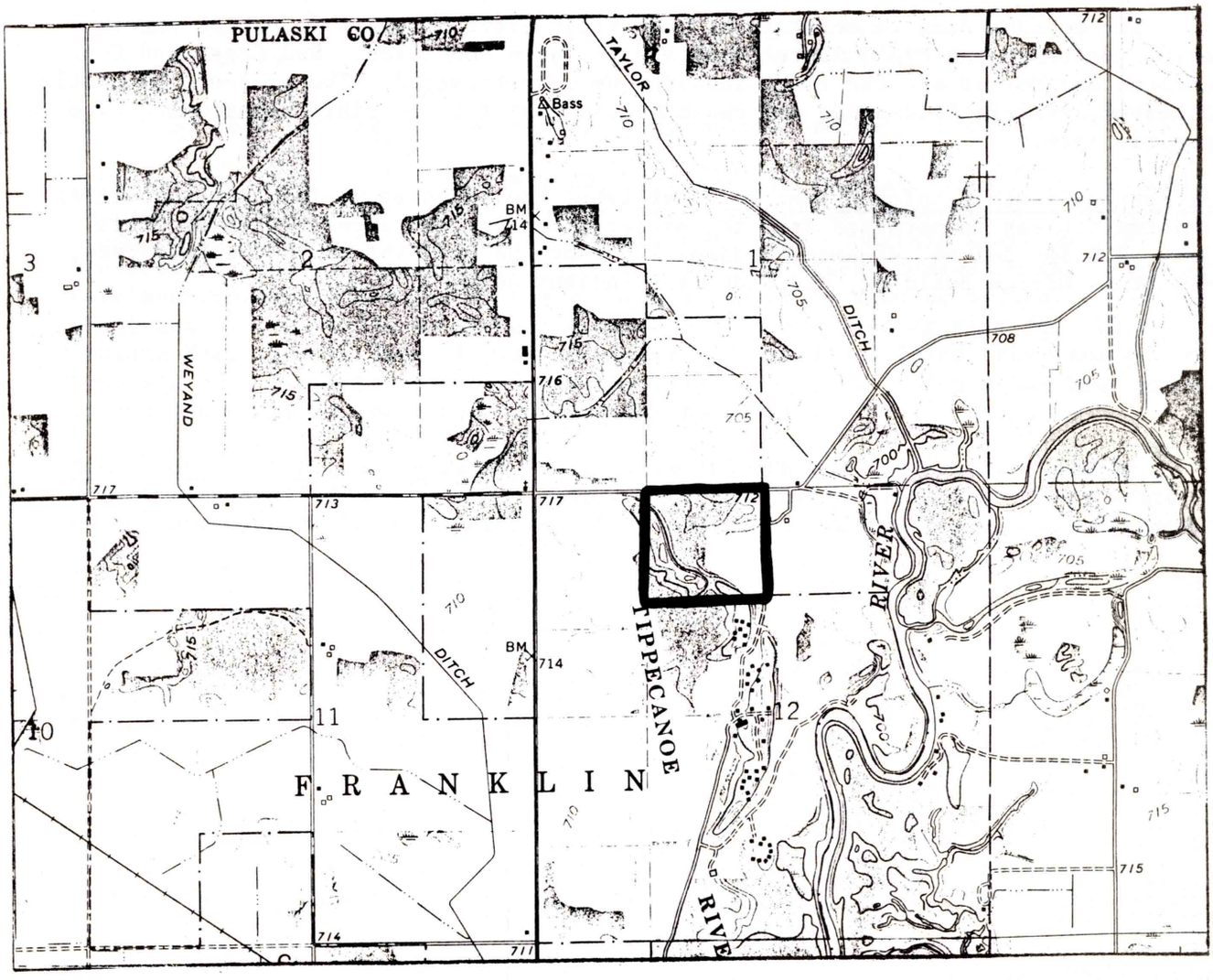
The Western side is still in an open field after 30 years in public ownership. Dewberry and Field Sorrel indicate its acid condition. Red Crest and Cup Lichens and Mosses are the first invaders on open blowsand. The presence of Little Bluestem, Prairie Goldenrods and Panic Grasses point to possible maintenance of a prairie site.

Access and further information: No established trails exist in this area. Further information may be obtained from the property manager of Tippecanoe River State Park, R.R.#4, Box 44, Winamac, Indiana 46996 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Sand Hill Nature Preserve

County: Pulaski
Size: 60 acres

Map: Bass Lake Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: This area is located on the Tippecanoe River State Park North of group camp number two.

Description: Many sand hills were formed during glacial periods which created the Northern Moraine and Lake Region in Indiana. Soils were formed by outwash material with variable drainages. These factors have influenced the forest composition on this Nature Preserve.

Well-drained Plainfield fine sand is found on the higher ridge. Black Oak dominates here, but there are a few White Oak and Black Gum. Shrub cover is quite sparse and consists of Huckle-berry clumps, Woodbine, Poison Ivy and Wild Grape.

Berrien and Newton loamy fine sands create a different composition in depressions. Pin Oak, Jack Oak, Black Gum and Red Maple are typical. In a few isolated pockets, stunted Black Gums grow on bare yellow sand with a few Lichens and Roundhead Lespedezas.

A small acreage, previously cleared, is regenerating with trembling Aspen, Pin Oak and Willow. The ground is covered with thick tangles of Blackberry, Sedges and Sensitive Fern.

nosed Moles, Blanding's Turtles, and Massasauga Rattlesnakes are among the more unusual animals found on the refuge.

Most of the upland portions of the area are dedicated nature preserve and are owned by ACRES, Inc. The lowland areas, as well as an upland area on the east side of the refuge are owned by the Division of Fish and Wildlife as part of their Wetlands Conservation Area program.

Access and further information: The ownerhsip and management of the Ropchan Wildlife Refuge is a cooperative effort between ACRES, Inc. and the Division of Fish and Wildlife of Indiana's Department of Natural Resources.

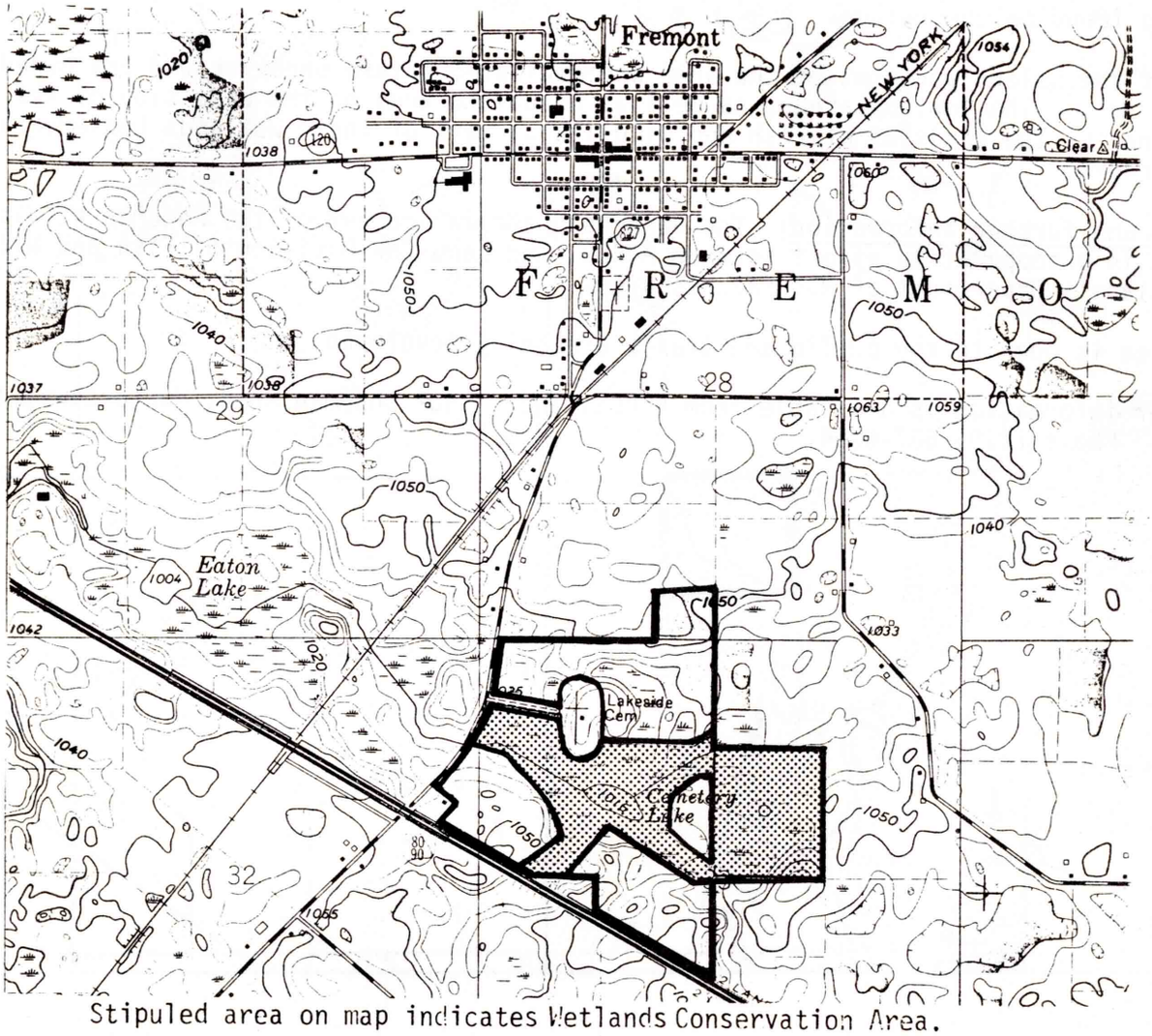
The area is open to the public and trails are being developed.

Further information is available from ACRES, Inc., 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana 46748. Phone (219) 637-6264.

ROPCHAN WILDLIFE REFUGE NATURE PRESERVE

County: Steuben
Size: 157 acres (dedicated nature Preserve)
90 acres (wetlands conservation area)

Map: Angola East
Ownership: Acres, Inc.
Div. of Fish and Wildlife



Stipuled area on map indicates Wetlands Conservation Area.

Location: This preserve is located about one mile south of Fremont on the east side of Route 827. A parking area is provided along Route 827 at the northwest corner of the preserve.

Description: This is an especially diverse area. It contains a number of plant communities including forest of upland oak-hickory, mixed mesophytic, and lowland swamp forest. Many acres of former agricultural land are undergoing old-field succession and range from weedy open fields to shrub thickets to young forest. Several pine plantations add variety on these old-fields. Besides the shrub and tree swamp in the lowlands, there are open areas of marshland surrounding a small natural lake.

The topography is the strongly rolling "kettle and kame" glacial topography that is so well developed in Steuben County.

Unusual features include a tamarack stand on the south side of the lake. Other unusual plants include yellow birches and two species of Pyrola. Animals are common in the refuge and include numerous birds and all the common mammals. Deer are abundant. Star-

The dispersion of soil types results in an understory of Hazelnut, Dogwood, Arrowwood, Gooseberry, Virginia Creeper and Poison Ivy among brambles of Blackberry and Raspberry on dry sites. Prickly Ash, Highbush Blueberry become more frequent on lower ground bordering Red Maple swamps that are edged with Winterberry and the rarer Mountain Holly. In places shallow-rooted Red Maples have fallen and created hummocks covered with the large spreading fronds of Cinnamon Ferns.

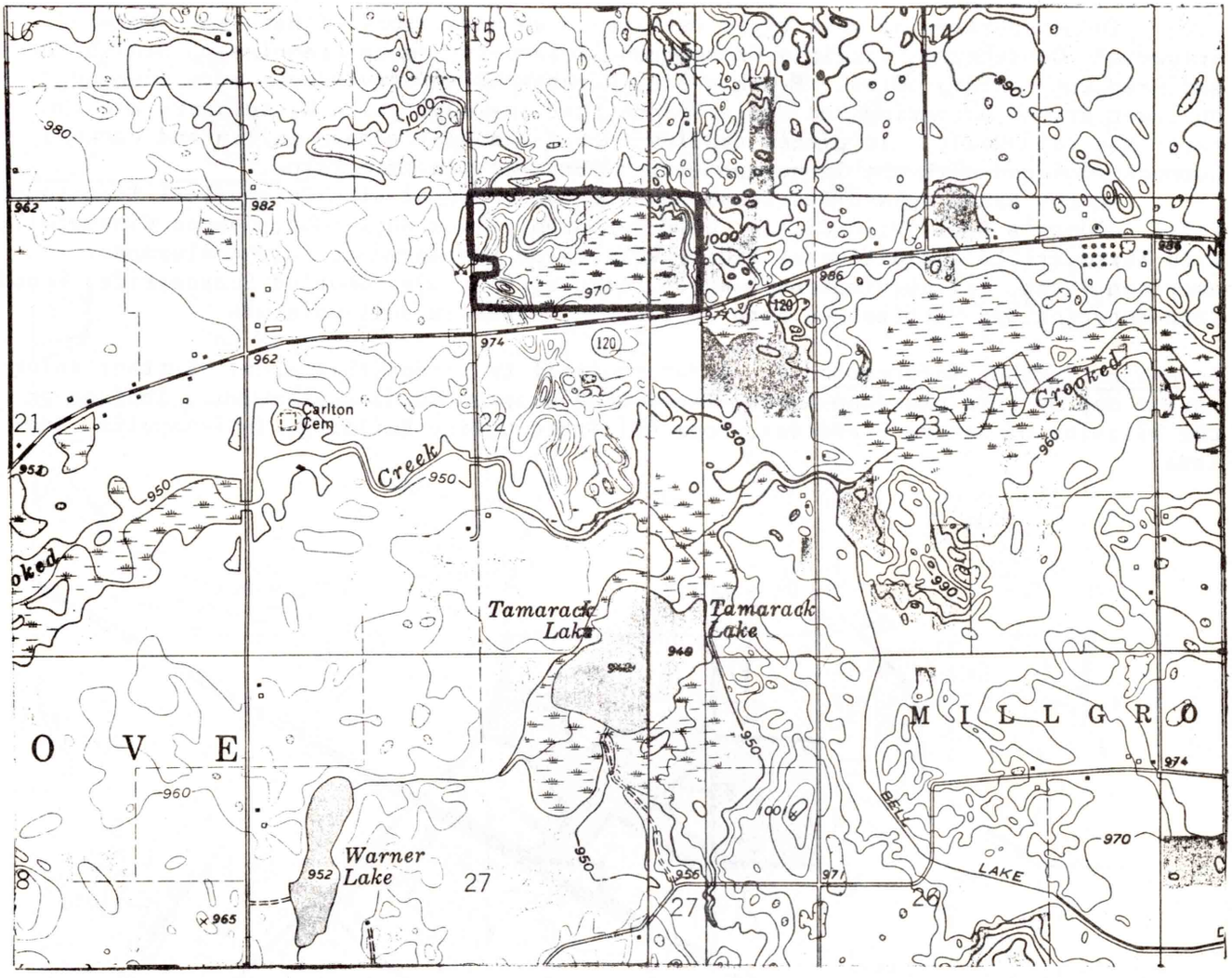
On the sandy upland Bracken Ferns are interspersed with Pointedleaf Tickclover, False Solomon's Seal, Wild Cicely, Wild Geranium, Black Snakeroot, Common Cinquefoil, Wild Sarsaparilla and different Bedstraws. False Rue Anemone, Golden Alexanders, American Vetch, Yellow Pimpernel, White Lettuce, Foxglove, Whorled Loosestrife, Roundlobe Hepatica and Rattlesnake Fern reflect increases in soil moisture.

Access and further information: A Nature trail traverses this area. Further information may be obtained from Acres, Inc., 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown , Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Ropchan Memorial Nature Preserve

County: Steuben
Size: 77acres

Map: Orland Quadrangle
Ownership: Acres, Inc.



Location: This Nature Preserve may be reached by going two miles east of Orland on State Highway 120, then 1/8 mi. North on Steuben County Road 750 West to a parking lot.

Description: Sam and Adeline Ropchan gave these 77 acres in Steuben County as a living memorial for the inspiration and education of all generations under the stewardship of Acres, Inc. It is protected and managed by this private preservation organization.

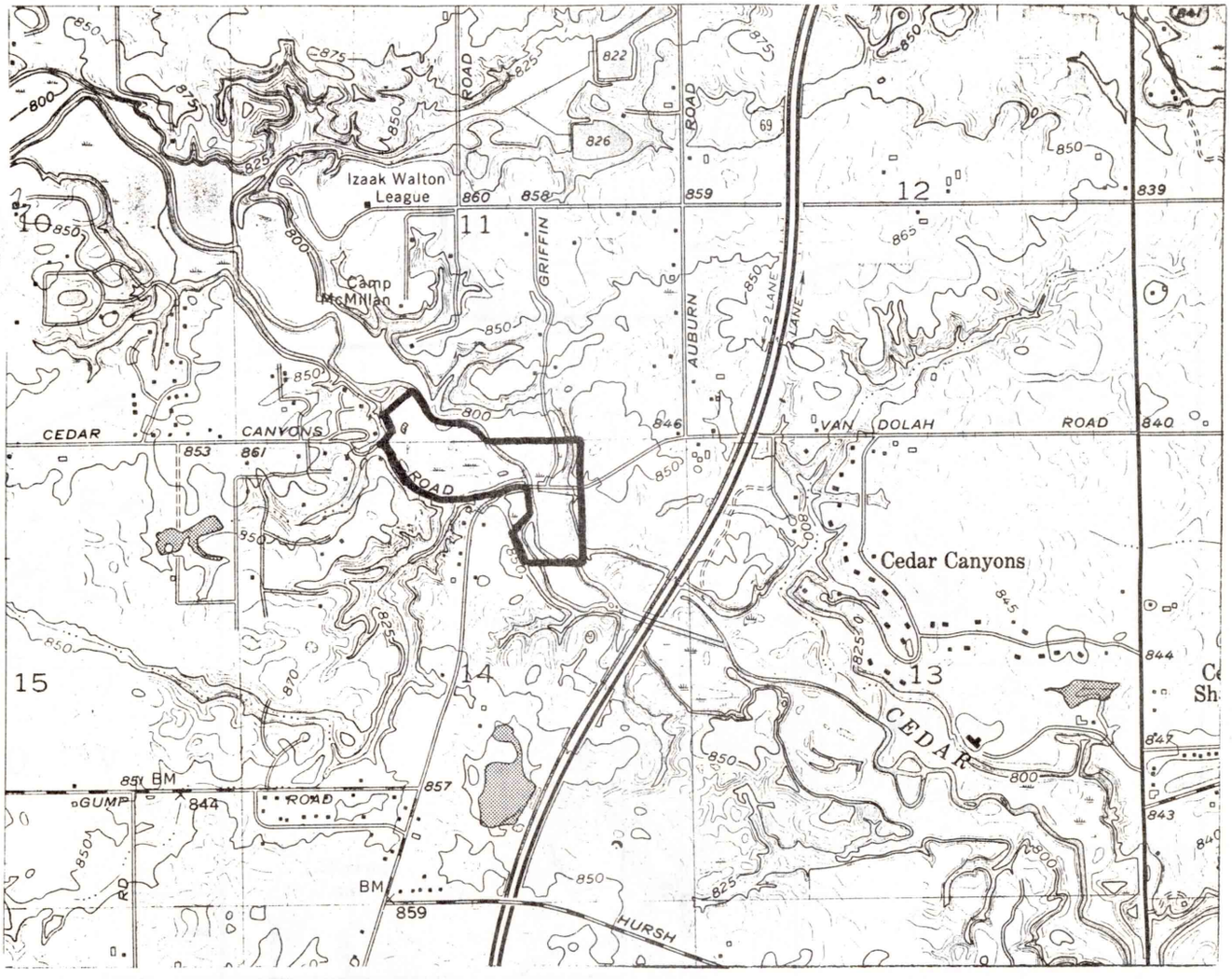
The diversity of geological features, with morainal ridges, kettle holes, swamps, and bogs, contributes to a good floral distribution. Sandy loam ridges surround pockets of muck and peat. These higher and drier portions support associations of Shagbark Hickory, White Oak, Red Oak, Black Oak, Wild Black Cherry and Sassafras, interspersed with occasional clumps of Largetooth Aspen.

Red Maple becomes common, as soil moisture increases in lower slopes, and this tree dominates where water remains on the surface. Tamarack replaces Red Maple in the deeper peat pockets and swamps. A lone native White Pine stands in a boggy area where a long pole, probed through the Sphagnum Moss, never reaches a solid bottom.

ALBERT D. RODENBECK NATURE PRESERVE

County: Allen
Size: 49 acres

Map: Cedarville
Ownership: Izaak Walton League



Location: From I-69/Coldwater Road interchange, go north on Coldwater Road (old Route 327) about 5.75 miles to Cedar Canyons Road. Then go east on Cedar Canyons Road about 1.5 miles to a parking area on north side of road.

Description: This 49 acre nature preserve in Allen County protects land along both sides of Cedar Creek, which is a component of Indiana's Natural River System. Most of the preserve consists of floodplain bottomland forest dominated by cottonwood, sycamore, and willow. Other portions contain upland and ravine forest dominated by oaks and hickories.

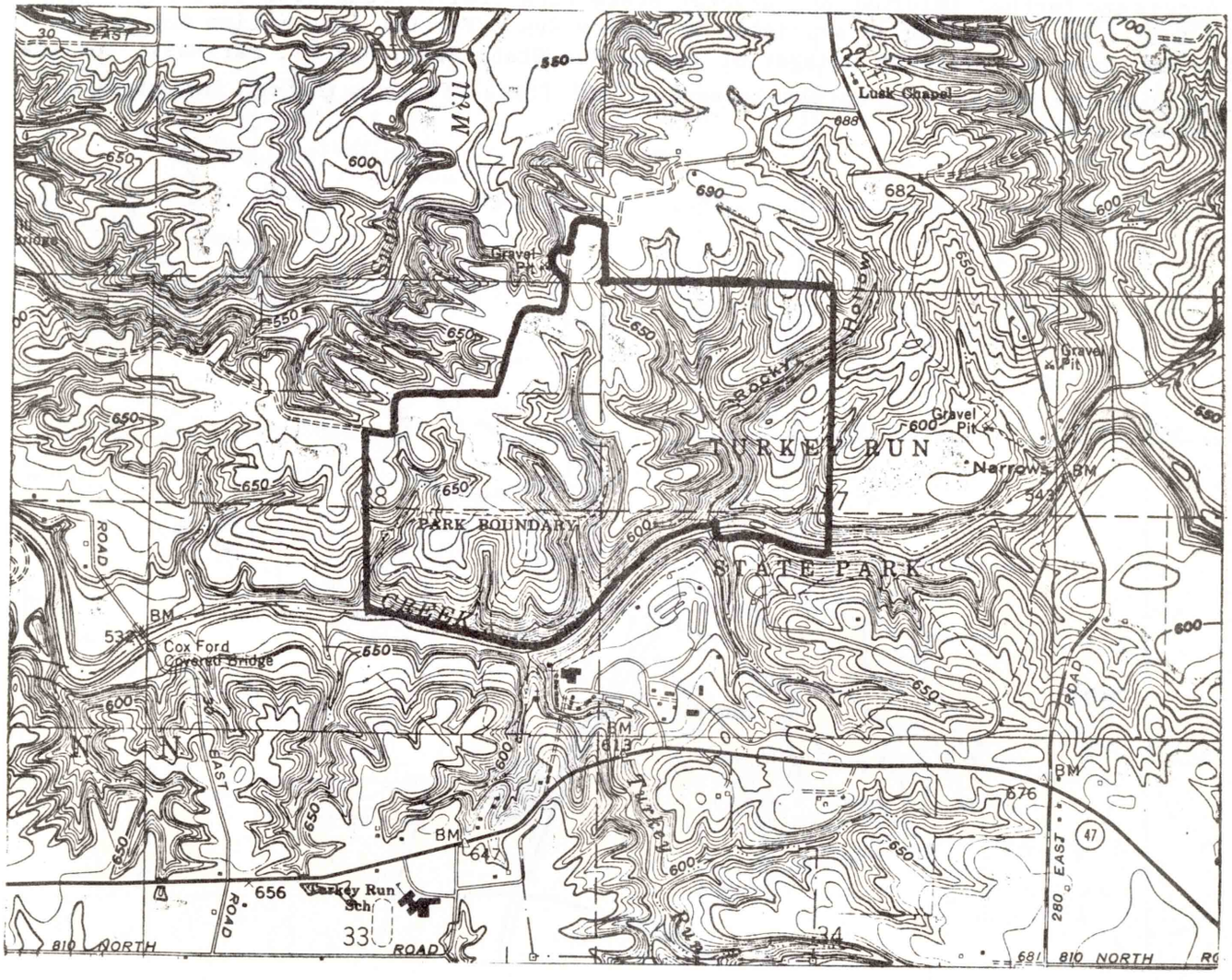
Access and further information: This preserve is presently undeveloped. Until further development, access is by permission only. Permission for entry and further information available from the Fort Wayne Chapter of the Izakk Walton League, 17100 Griffin Road, Huntertown, Indiana 46748. Caretaker's phone number: 219/637-6735.

Access and further information: Several State Park trails transverse this area and a full time naturalist is available at Turkey Run. Further information may be obtained from the property manager of Turkey Run State Park, R.R.#1, Marshall, Indiana 47859 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46024.

Rocky Hollow Falls Canyon Nature Preserve

County: Parke
Size: 404 acres

Map: Wallace Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: This Nature Preserve lies on the North side of Sugar Creek in Turkey Run State Park.

Description: This part of Turkey Run contains narrow canyons, flanked by high walls of Mansfield sandstone, to which Ferns, Hydrangeas and native Hemlock trees cling and shade out all but the noonday sun. Miniature waterfalls rumble over the rocks at the head of these gorges.

A magnificent old-growth forest occupies the upland and alluvial terraces. Large Black Walnut, measuring up to 47 inches, Tulip 51 inches, White Ash 51 inches, Hackberry 38 inches, and a 31-inch Honey Locust are examples of sizes of these hardwood trees. Sassafras, commonly considered a shrub species, reaches 26 inches, and Black Gum 30 inches.

The shrub layer consists of Flowering Dogwood, Ironwood, Spicebush, Mapleleaf Virburnum and Leatherwood. Herbaceous plants are Maidenhair Fern, Rattlesnake Fern, Spleenworts, Bloodroot, Anemones, Trilliums, Bedstraws, Hepatica, False Solomon's Seal, Dragonroot, and many other wildflowers.

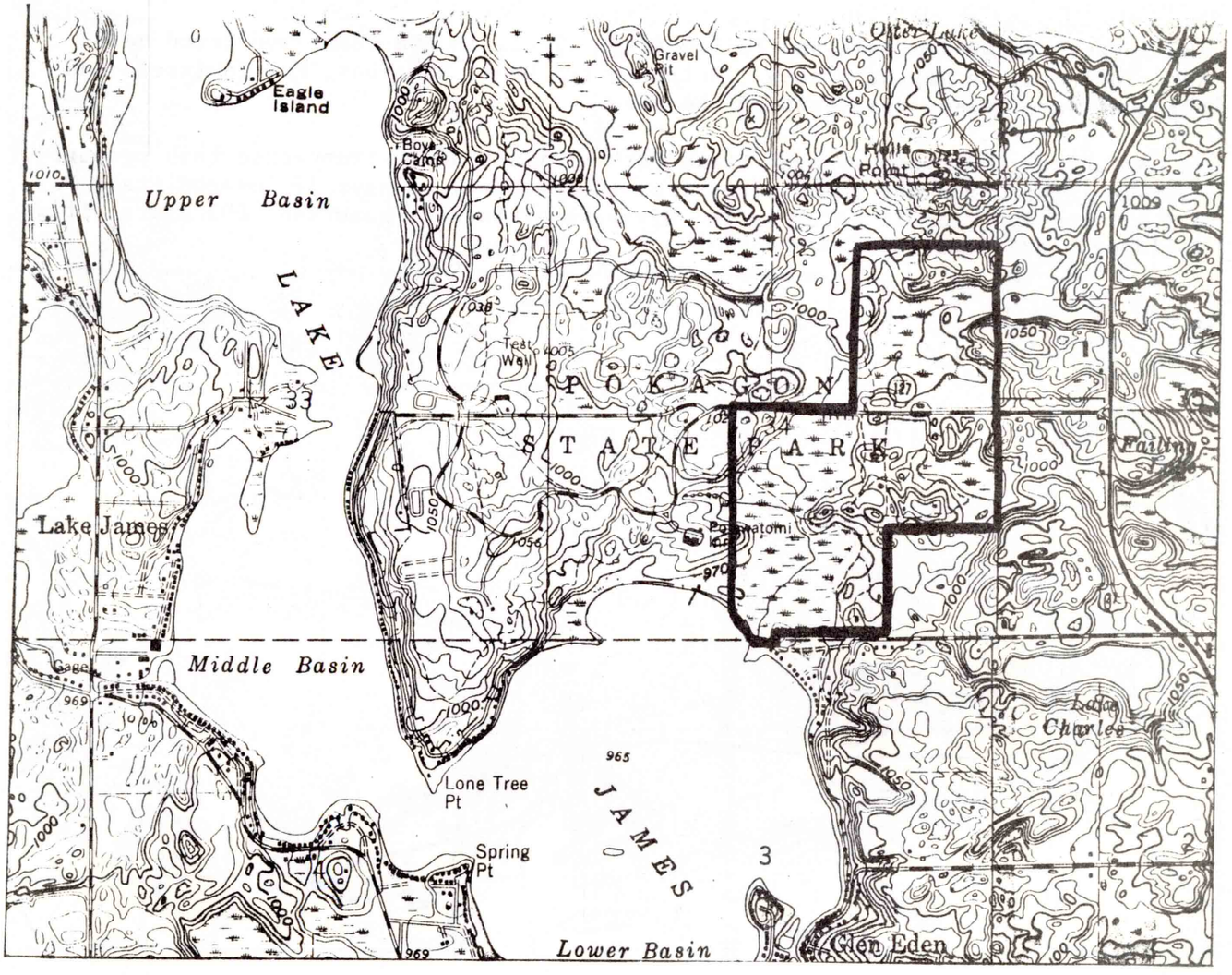
the largest known Tamarack and Yellow Birch Trees in the State are found here. Waterfowl nest in marshy places. White-tailed Deer, Raccoons, Fox Squirrels and Chipmunks are common residents of the area.

Access and further information: State Park trails 3 and 6 transverse this property. Further information may be obtained from the property manager of Pokagon State Park, R.R.#2, Box 29C, Angola 46703 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Potawatomi Nature Preserve

County: Steuben
Size: 208 acres

Map: Angola West Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: Potawatomi is located on the Southeast and East side of Pokagon State Park.

Description: A small natural lake, Cattail marshes, Sedge meadows, Tamarack and Yellow Birch swamps and adjoining uplands covered with hardwoods are features of this 208-acre State Nature Preserve in Pokagon State Park. It is an outstanding example of the original landscape in the Northeastern Morainal Lake Region.

Lake Lonidaw is nestled in a depression bordered by marsh vegetation and an adjoining Tamarack-Black Ash swamp. Three Northern White Cedars are found in a nearby wetseep. Their origin has not been determined. If they are native, they represent the only known occurrence of this tree in Indiana.

The higher morainal ridges support stands of Red and White Oaks, Wild Black Cherry, Shagbark Hickory and Sugar Maple. Flowering Dogwood and Mapleleaf Viburnum add color to the understory in Spring. Wild Sarsaparilla, Wake Robin, Bellwort and Hepatica are found in the ground cover.

Other swampy areas have dense beds of Cinnamon Ferns and Royal Ferns, growing beneath an overstory of Red Maple, Tamarack, Yellow Birch and Black Ash. In fact,

species of Blazing Star. Purple-stemmed Cliffbrake Fern clings to exposed rocks.

Moist sites at lower elevation have the usual mixtures of Sugar Maple, Hackberry, Oaks, Ashes and Hickories, with an understory of Ironwood, Blue Beech, Flowering Dogwood, Pawpaw and Wahoo.

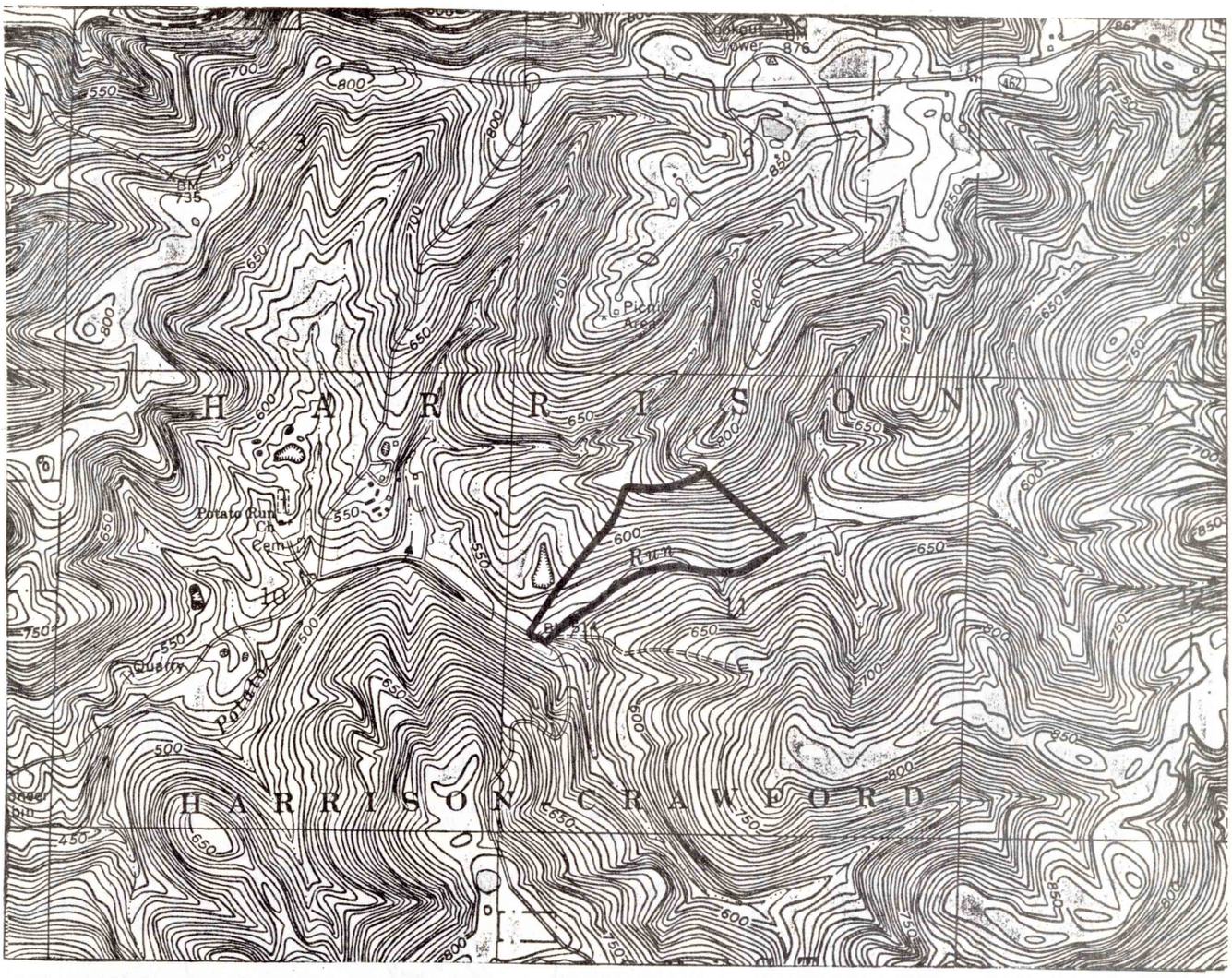
Wild Turkey and Ruffed Grouse have been reintroduced in the vicinity. White Tail Deer and Fox and Gray Squirrels are often seen.

Access and further information: A self-guiding nature trail with 25 marked stations transverses the area. Further information may be obtained from the property manager of Harrison-Crawford State Forest, R.R.#2., Box 230, Corydon, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Post Oak-Cedar Nature Preserve

County: Harrison
Size: 42 acres

Map: Leavenworth Quadrangle
Ownership: Forestry



Location: This area may be reached by taking U.S. Highway 460 about 12 miles West of Corydon and turning South on Highway 462. After entering the State Forest, take the first road South to a marked parking area.

Description: This Nature Preserve has two contrasting habitats. The upper slopes of limestone and sandstone are dry with slow-growing trees, shrubs and open barrens. The lower slopes and valley with limestone is more mesophytic.

Dry sites support such Oaks as Post, Chestnut, White, Blackjack, Scarlet and Black, mixed with red cedar. Winged Elm and Carolina Buckthorn are also found here. Common shrubs, growing on the thin topsoil, are Dwarf Hackberry, Southern Blackhaw, New Jersey Tea, Deerberry, St. Andrew's Cross, Shrubby St. Johnswort, and Fragrant Sumac.

There is an unusual occurrence of four different species of Smilax, including Sawbrier, Fringed, Round-leaved and Hispid Greenbriers.

Several openings do not support woody growth. These barrens or hill prairies are unique with Big and Little Bluestems, False Dragonhead, Coneflower, and two

Vertical cliff faces have small crevices from which grow Bulblet, Hayscented, and Marginal Shield Ferns. Several colonies of Forbes Saxifrage are found in larger pockets of soil. Liverworts cover moist portions of some rocks and are occasionally joined by the creeping fronds of Walking Ferns.

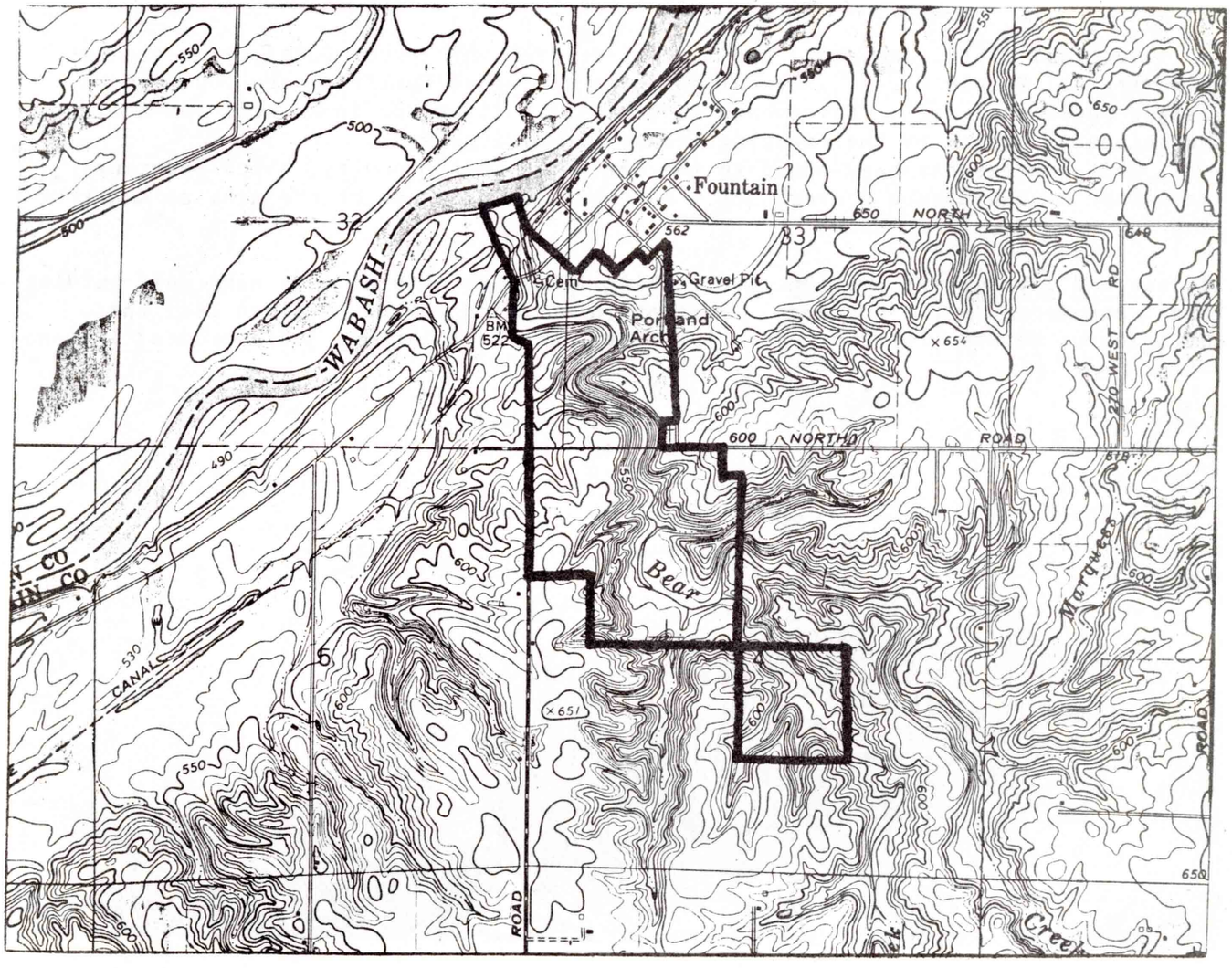
More acreage has been added to the portion of this property, which previously was owned by the Nature Conservancy. Past use includes use of the area as a resort and latter a Boy Scout Camp.

Access and further information: Two parking lots each with an adjoining self-guiding trail are found on the property. Further information may be obtained from the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Portland Arch Nature Preserve

County: Fountain
Size: 253 acres

Map: Stone Bluff Quadrangle
Ownership: Nature Preserves



Location: Portland Arch is located on the South Side of the Town of Fountain which can be reached by going South on U.S. Highway 41 from Attica for a distance of about 5 miles and then West on County Road 650N.

Description: This Nature Preserve has been recognized for its uniqueness since the first settlers came to Western Indiana. A stone arch and rugged canyon attract vistors to this scenic area near the Wabash River. The area has been designated a National Natural Landmark.

Bear Creek flows through a deep ravine with high rock walls on each side. It is joined by a small tributary stream that has carved an opening through a massive Mansfield sandstone formation and created a natural bridge, known as Portland Arch.

A few native White Pine are mixed with Oaks and Hickories growing on the thin mantle of soil on steep slopes. The ground is covered with mosses and lichens and supports scattered beds of Blueberry, Huckleberry, and Wintergreen. The rare Bush-Honeysuckle occurs here. This is also the only known place in the State where the Canada Blueberry is found.

Pine Hills, in addition to being the first State Nature Preserve in Indiana, is also the 107th site to be included in the *National Registry of Natural Landmarks.*

The Indiana Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, a non-profit organization, raised money through private donations to acquire the tract. On October 16, 1961, it was conveyed to the Department of Natural Resources. On June 1, 1971, Wabash College also gave 12 acres as an addition bordering Sugar Creek.

Pine Hills was originally divided into a number of ownerships. One of the wider ridges adjoining the more level upland was cleared, but the rest of the land remained essentially in timber.

A sawmill was set up in the 1850s as an addition to the Deer and Canine grist mill at Pine Bluffs. Timber-cutting activities removed many of the larger hardwoods, but the pines and hemlocks were not seriously disturbed.

A commercial enterprise entered the area in 1868 when the Pine Hill Woolen Mill Company placed a dam in Clifty Creek. A notch was excavated through the abutting hill and the impounded water ran through this open cut into a wooden flume connected with a water wheel that powered the mill.

Due to damage from floods, the mill was moved to nearby Pine Bluff in 1873. Thus, the valleys and surrounding hills soon returned to their sylvan beauty.

Pine Hills is of importance from a botanical standpoint. *White Pine* is unique when considering size and number. This conifer in many places appears to be successfully competing still with hardwoods. *Hemlock* grows more slowly, but is reproducing. *Wintergreen* and *partridgeberry,* found on the forest floor, are of interest.

In the Spring, the rare *snow trillium* is the earlist flowering plant. Clumps of *hepatica* soon bloom, as well as *trout lily, wake robin* and *Jack-in-the-Pulpit. Flowering dogwood* and *redbud* add color in May.

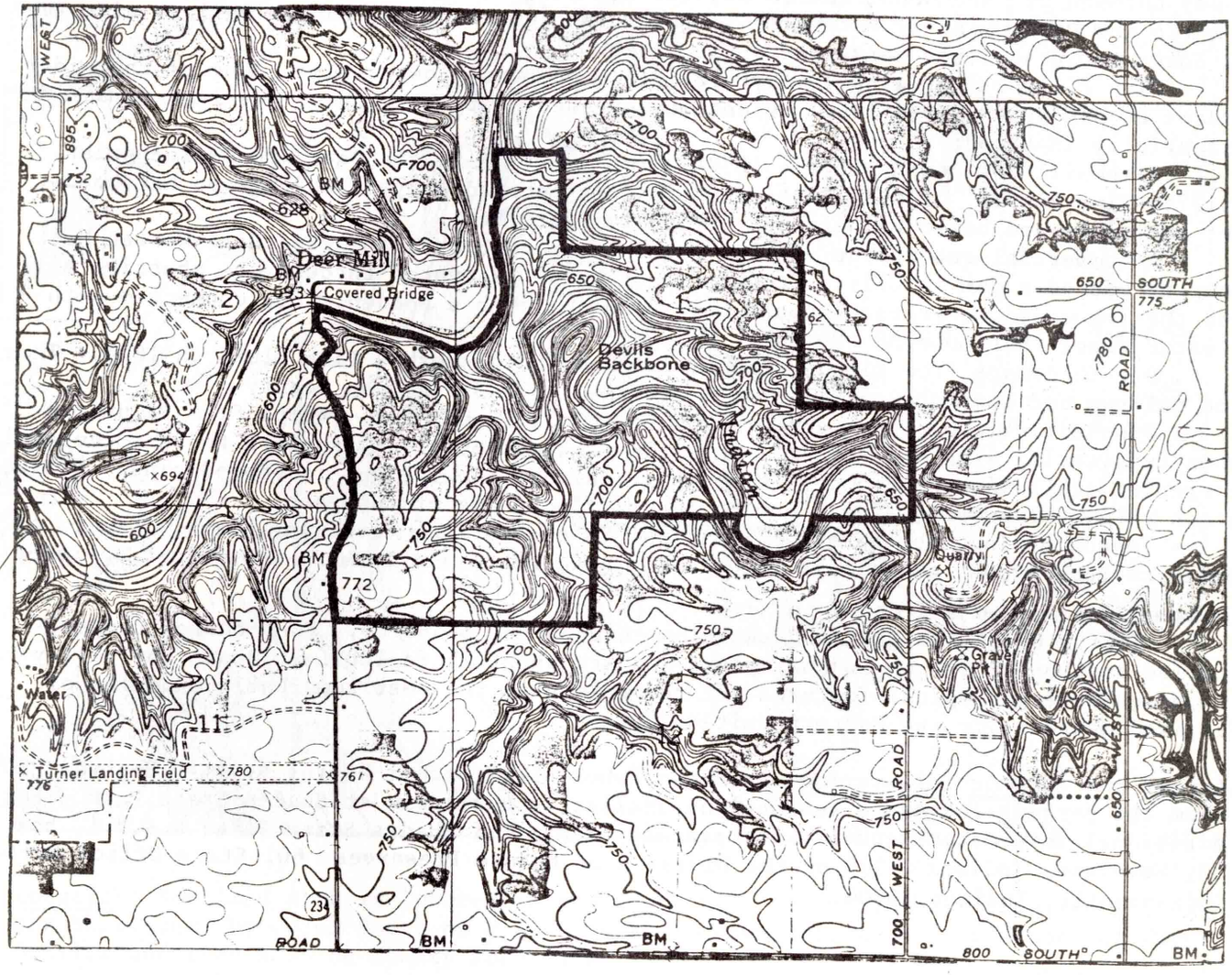
Clifty Creek and Indian Creek flow through the property. Four narrow ridges, called backbones, remain in the upland and are about 75 to 100 feet above the valley floor. These geological features are recognized as the most remarkable examples of incised meanders in the Eastern United States.

Access and further information: An established hiking trail begins across Highway 234 from the parking lot and a seasonal naturalist is available at Shades State Park. For additional information contact the property manger of Shades State Park, R.R.# 1, box 53, Waveland, Indiana 47989 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

PINE HILLS

County: Montgomery
Size: 470 acres

Map: Alamo
Ownership: State Parks



Location: Proceed east on Road 800 S from the entrance of Shades State Park and turn north on Highway 234 to a marked parking lot.

Description: This is an appropriate name for a 470-acre area with scattered stands of evergreens mixed with hardwood trees growing amidst rugged hills and deep gorges. The association of White Pine, Hemlock and Canada Yew represents a relic stand that has persisted from the period following the last Glacier, when the climate was much colder in Indiana.

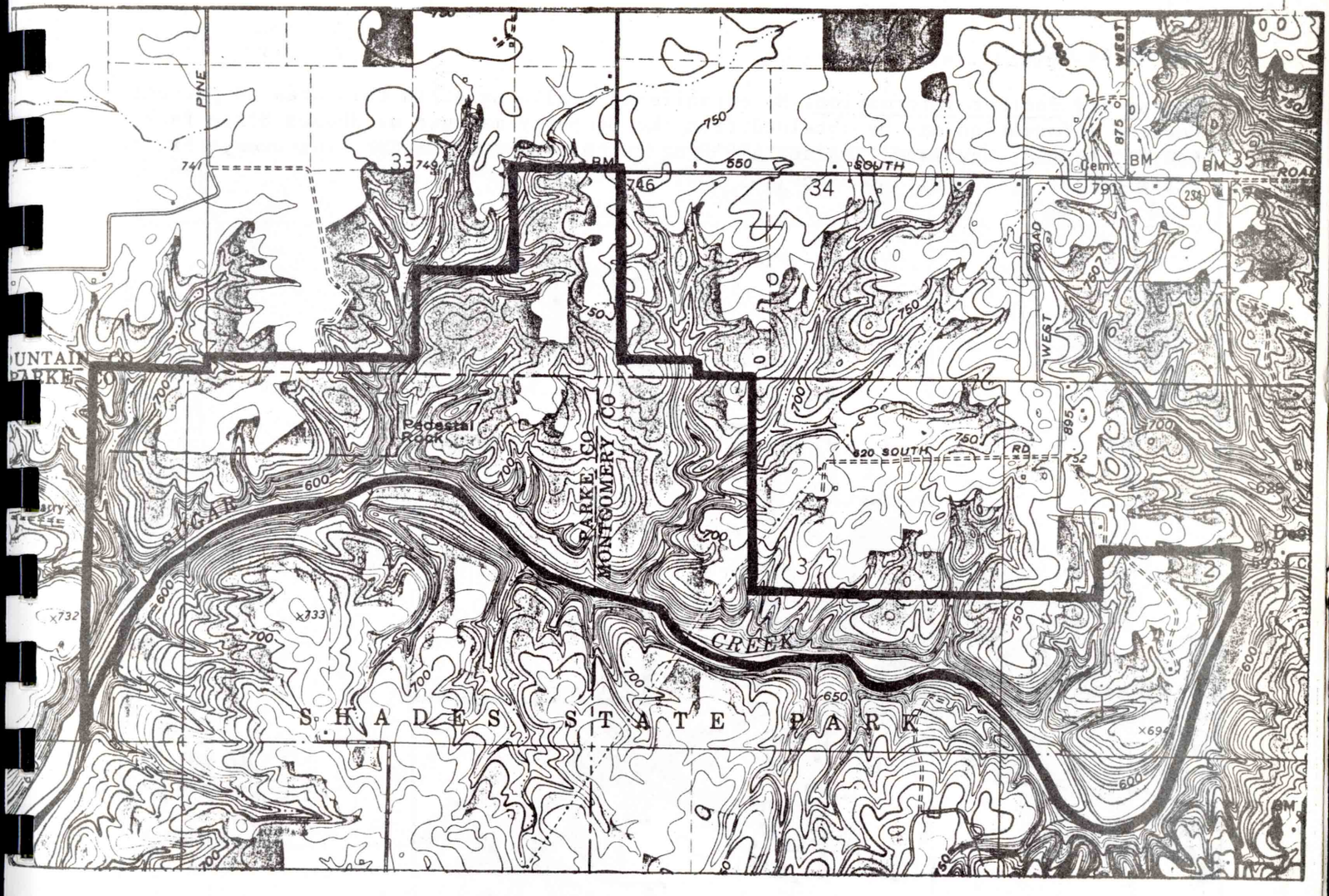
and White Ash.

Access and further information: No established trails exist in this area at present. Further information may be obtained from the property manager of Shades State Park, R.R.#1, Box 53, Waveland, Indiana 47989 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Pedestal Rock Nature Preserve

County: Parke & Fountain
Size: 833 acres

Map: Alamo Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: This Nature Preserve is located on the North side of Sugar Creek in Shades State Park.

Description: Deep canyons and high escarpments along Sugar Creek make this Nature Preserve quite similar to Pine Hills. Both tracts are within the boundaries of Shades State Park.

Pedestal Rock from which the area derived its name has been partially destroyed by weathering. In some places the upland extends to high overlooks above Sugar Creek, while other parts are dissected by narrow ravines containing small rivulets with miniature plunging waterfalls.

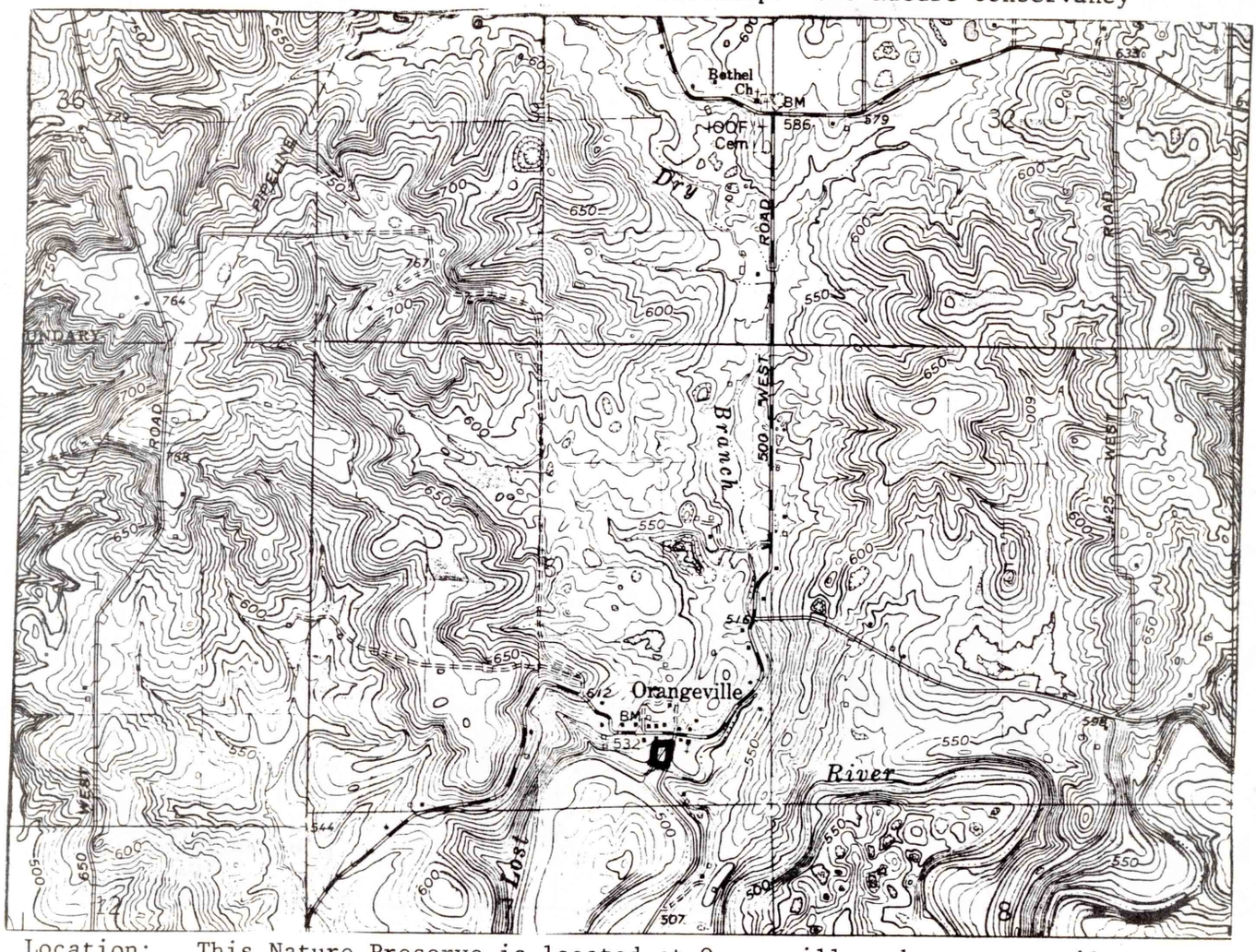
Towering Hemlock trees, on steep cool slopes, shade beds of Cananda Yew and Partridge-berry on the forest floor. Walking Ferns and Liverworts cling to exposed sandstone that is bordered by thin layers of organic soil with Christmas Fern, marginal shield Ferns and patches of Hepatica.

The second-growth hardwood stand at upper elevations is mixed with Beech-Maple and Oak-Hickory. There is an open understory of Sugar-Maple, Flowering Dogwood, Elm

ORANGEVILLE RISE OF LOST RIVER NATURE PRESERVE

County: Orange
Size: 3 acres

Map: Georgia Quadrangle
Ownership: The Nature Conservancy



Location: This Nature Preserve is located at Orangeville, about seven miles West of Orleans.

Description: This small three-acre geological area in Orange County is one of the two rises of Lost River. The very unusual underground stream emerges in a semicircular rock-walled pit, 220 feet across. This great artesian spring, draining about 30 square miles, is the third largest in Indiana.

The Lost River watershed occupies 355 square miles in five Counties in South-Central Indiana. The entire drainage area is situated within two physiographic units, the Mitchell Plain and the Crawford Upland. The upstream portion is primarily characterized by dry-beds on the surface. In the lower portion of this Karst valley two forms of subterranean drainage develop by stream piracy and subterranean cutoffs. This limestone region is widely known for its sinkholes, caves, underground streams and blind fish. This Nature Preserve, owned by The Nature Conservancy, also has been designated as a National Natural Landmark.

Access and further information: This Nature Preserves is open to the pbulic and further information may be obtained from The Nature Conservancy, R.R. #1, Box 155, Nashville, Indiana 47448, phone: 812-988-7547.

Besides Tamarack, which is not common in Indiana, other shoreline trees include Silver Maple, Red Maple and Green Ash. Shrubs include Red-osier Dogwood, Poison Sumac, Buttonbush, Swamp Rose and Dwarf Birch. Skunk Cabbage abounds in low mucky spots. Aquatic vegetation is sparse in Olin Lake because the lake bottom is covered with marl, a white calcareous substance precipitated from the water.

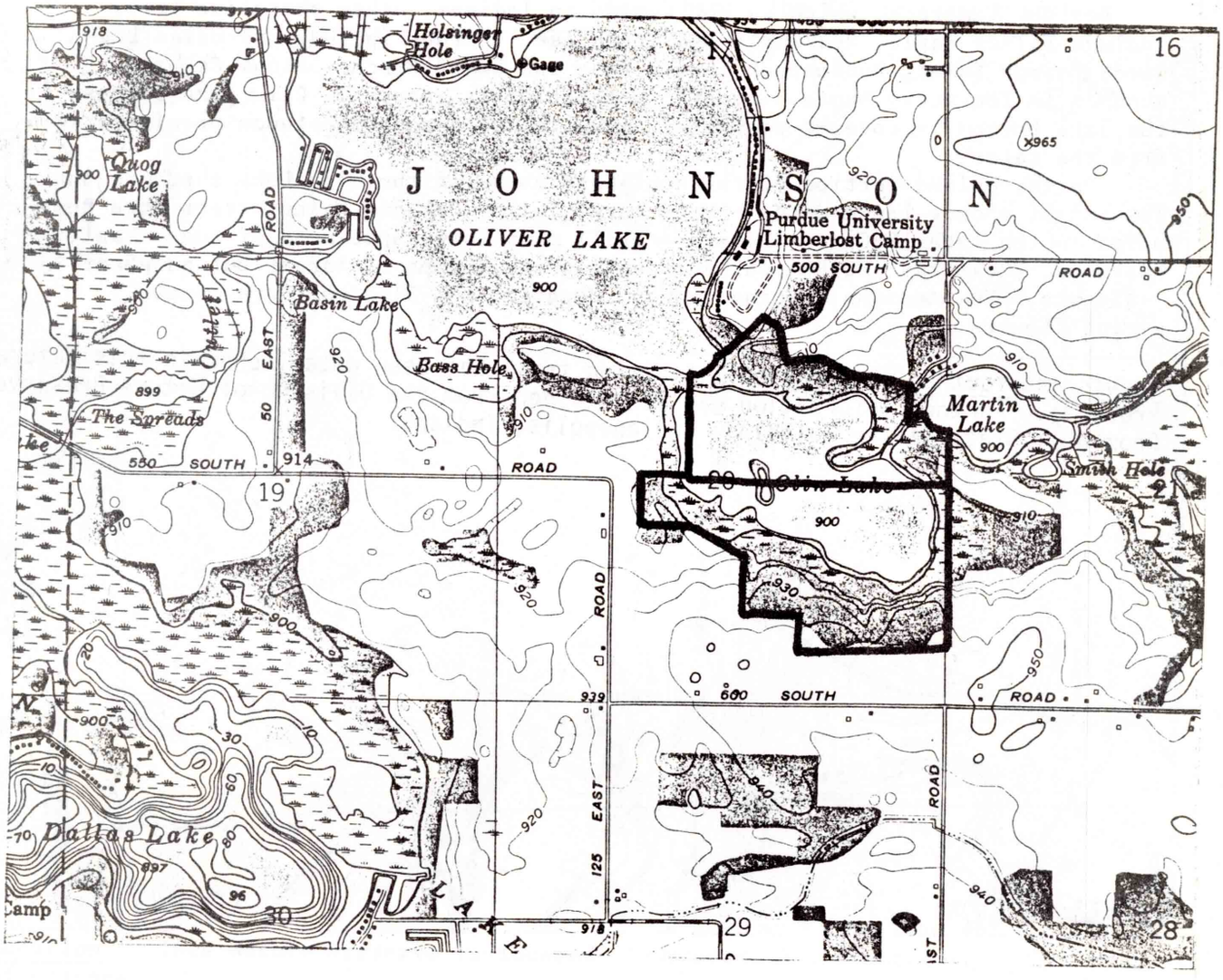
On the upland portion of the southeast shore of the Olin Lake there is the remnant of a once large woods. Many large Tulip, Oak and Walnut trees were removed in the late 1960's. There are still many large specimens of Sugar Maple, Basswood, Hackberry and Red Oak surrounding the stumps of larger but deceased residents. Rue Anemone, Spring Beauty, Hepatica and Bloodroot are common spring flowers.

Access and further information: A hiking trail has been established in this Nature Preserve. Further information can be obtained from the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Olin Lake Nature Preserve

County: LaGrange
Size: 206 acres

Map: Oliver Lake
Ownership: Nature Preserves (part) and
Purdue Research Foundation (part)



Location: Olin Lake can be reached by turning west on LaGrange County Road 600S off of State Highway 9, two miles north of Wolcottville. Proceed two miles and then turn right on County Road 125E and go north ½ mile to a parking lot.

Description: This 206-acre Preserve protects more than 80% of the shoreline of 103-acre Olin Lake, the largest lake with an undeveloped shoreline remaining in Indiana. The State acquired the first 126 acres of land with help of the Nature Conservancy, which purchased the land at a public auction and resold it to the State at a fraction of the cost. The other 80 acres are owned by Purdue University, (which is, of course, operated by the State).

A low marshy shoreline extends around most of the lake, which undoubtely contributed to the lack of shoreline development. Stands of Tamarack scattered along the shoreline are pleasing additions to the rare vista of an uncluttered Indiana lakeshore.

The understory has beautiful Flowering Dogwood and Redbud, mixed with Pawpaw, Spicebush, Ironwood, and Blue Beech. Delicate Mapleleaf Viburnum, Spiny Hercules Club, Wild Hydrangea and Witch Hazel add to the attractiveness of the site.

Wild flowers provide a continuous display of colors during the growing season. Typical plants are Wild Ginger, Perfoliate Bellwort, Solomon's Seal, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Rue Anemone, Bloodroot, May Apple, Reflexed Trillium, Bedstraws and White Baneberry.

Christmas Fern is widely distributed and often associated with Maidenhair Fern and Narrowleaf Spleenwort on the slopes. Fragile Fern, New York Fern, Broad Beech Fern, Silvery Spleenwort and Rattlesnake Fern are other species.

Access and further information: A self-guiding nature trail with 25 marked stations transverses the area. Further information may be obtained from the property manager of Brown County State Park, Box 116, Nashville, Indiana 47448 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Ogle Hollow

County: Brown
Size: 41 acres

Map: Nashville Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks

Location: Ogle Hollow is located in Brown County near the park office and primitive campground and is marked on the park map obtainable from the gate house or park office.

Description: The occurrence of the rare Yellowwood tree is the outstanding feature of this Nature Preserve. Ogle Hollow is one of only two places in Indiana where these trees are known to exist in the wild, the other being Yellowwood State Forest. The next nearest known location is in Kentucky, about 40 miles south of Evansville.

The 41-acre tract varies in elevation from 1,000 feet above sea level on the ridge to 750 feet in the valley. This difference of 250 feet and the Northern exposure contribute to moist cool habitat.

The Preserve contains a good variety of trees. Chestnut Oak and Black Oak occur on the upper ridge, while Red Oak and White Oak are at lower elevations. Shagbark and Bitternut Hickories, Green Ash, Sugar Maple, Beech, Largetooth Aspen, Red Elm, Sassafras, Basswood, Red Maple, Black Gum, and Sycamore, as well as the interesting Yellowwood, grow on the better sites. The largest Yellowwood measures 26 inches d.b.h.

tract in its near original state. Most of the forested sites are moist and are in various stages of succession to the Beech-Maple type.

Typical understory species are Sugar Maple, Red Elm, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Pawpaw, Spicebush and Running Evnonymus, Wild Ginger, Large Flower and Reflexed-sepal Trilliums. False and True Solomon's Seals, Ginseng, Wild Sarsaparilla and different violets grow on these shaded sites. Grape Fern, Broad Beech Fern, Christmas Fern and Ebony Spleenwort are commonly found.

In old fields with scattered invading stems of Red Elm, Wild Black Cherry and Red Maple, one may find the dainty nodding Ladies' Tresses and a few green-carpeted beds of Clubmoss.

One swamp contains a dense growth of buttonwood, edged with Willows and an occasional Winterberry with its bright red fruit after leaves have fallen. Lady Ferns and Indian Cucumber-root grow in bordering moist soil.

Two small kettle holes are rimmed with buttonbush and black willow.

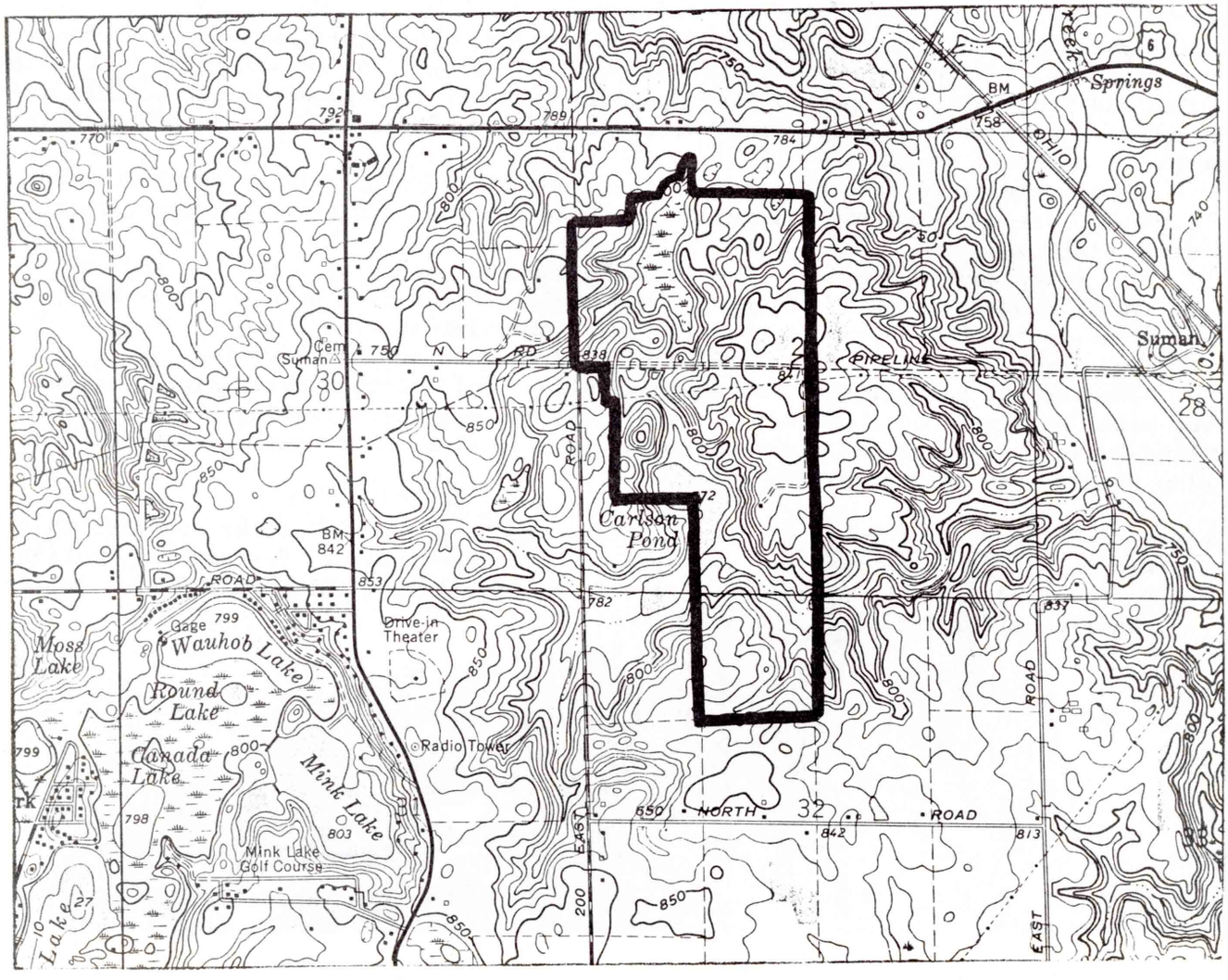
The largest natural pond has a complete cover of Spatterdocks. Rice Cutgrass and Water Smartweed on the muddy flats provide an excellent feeding place for dabbling Ducks. Bluewing Teal and Woodducks often flush from its surface, while Great Blue Herons wade in its shallow water.

Access and further information: A life estate has been granted to the donor of this property and it is therefore not presently open to the public. Further information may be obtained from the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Moraine Nature Preserve

County: Porter
Size: 193 acres

Map : Chesterton Quadrangle
Ownership: Nature Preserves



Location: Follow State Highway 49 North from Valparaiso to County Road 750N and then go East about ¼ mile.

Description: Moraine Nature Preserve is a fine example of the many land forms associated with the Valparaiso Moraine.

This morainal complex of scenic and geologic interest can be traced for several hundred miles from Southern Wisconsin through Northeastern Illinois and Northwestern Indiana into West-Central Michigan. Geologically, it is generally considered to mark the Southern edge of the Lake Michigan Lobe of glacial times.

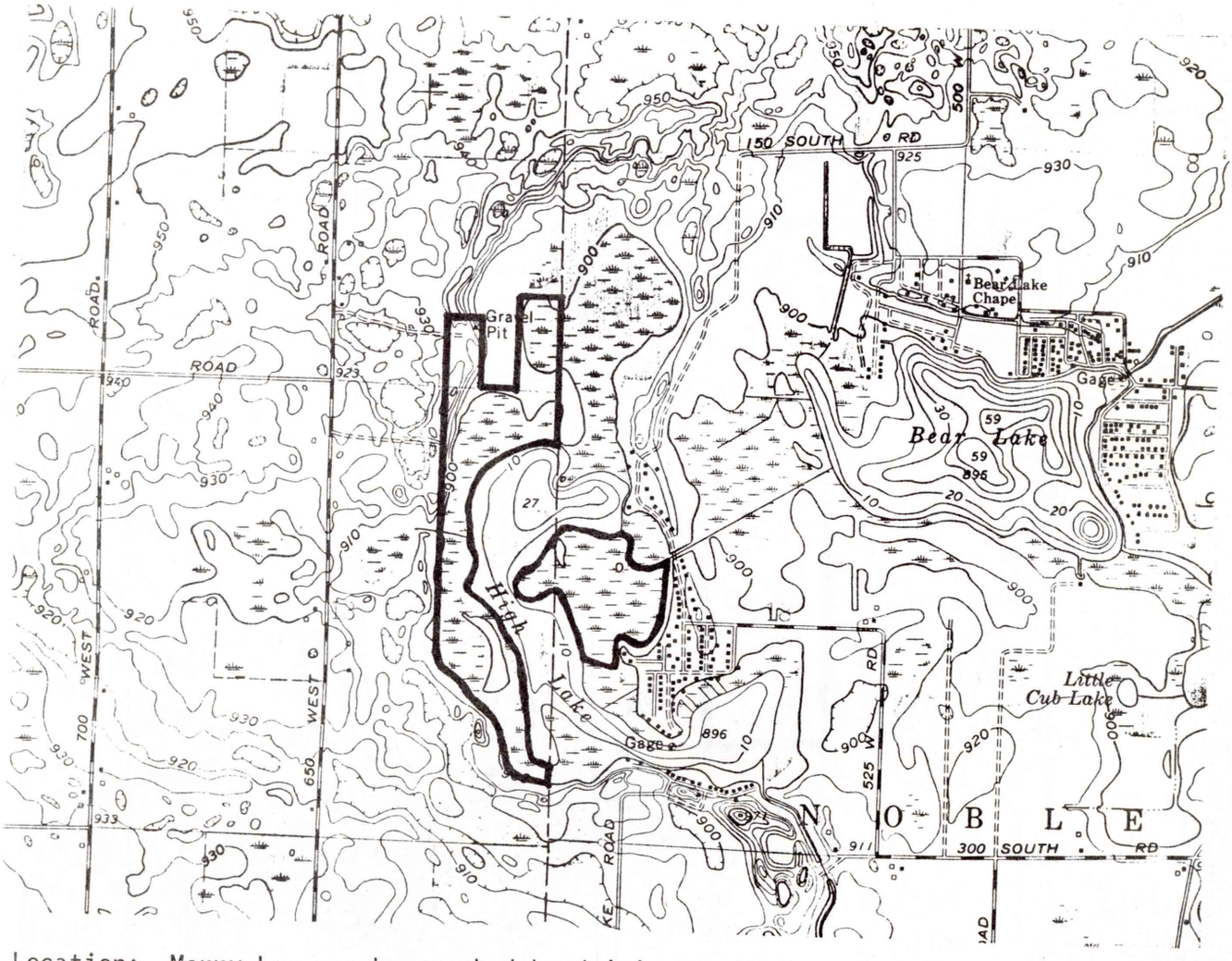
This tract in Porter County contains a combination of rolling ridges, steep sidehills, muck pockets, pot holes and a shallow pond. Vegetative types are quite diversified on various types of Miami soils which extend down to the muck areas and open water.

With the exception of a few upland fields in grass, the ridges and slopes are clothed with woodlands ranging from invading hardwoods and second growth to one small

MERRY LEA NATURE PRESERVE

County: Noble
Size: 189 acres

Map: Ormas Quadrangle
Ownership: Goshen College



Location: Merry Lea may be reached by driving south from the village of Wolflake on Route 109 for approximately two miles. Head west on County Road 350 South for one mile, and then go north on County Road 500 West for one-half mile to the entrance to the Center.

Description: This nature preserve is a portion of the large Merry Lea Environmental Center. Included in the preserve are a variety of communities and habitats including cattail marsh, swamp forest, upland forest, old field, and much of the shoreline of High Lake. Of geologic interest, a portion of an esker is also included.

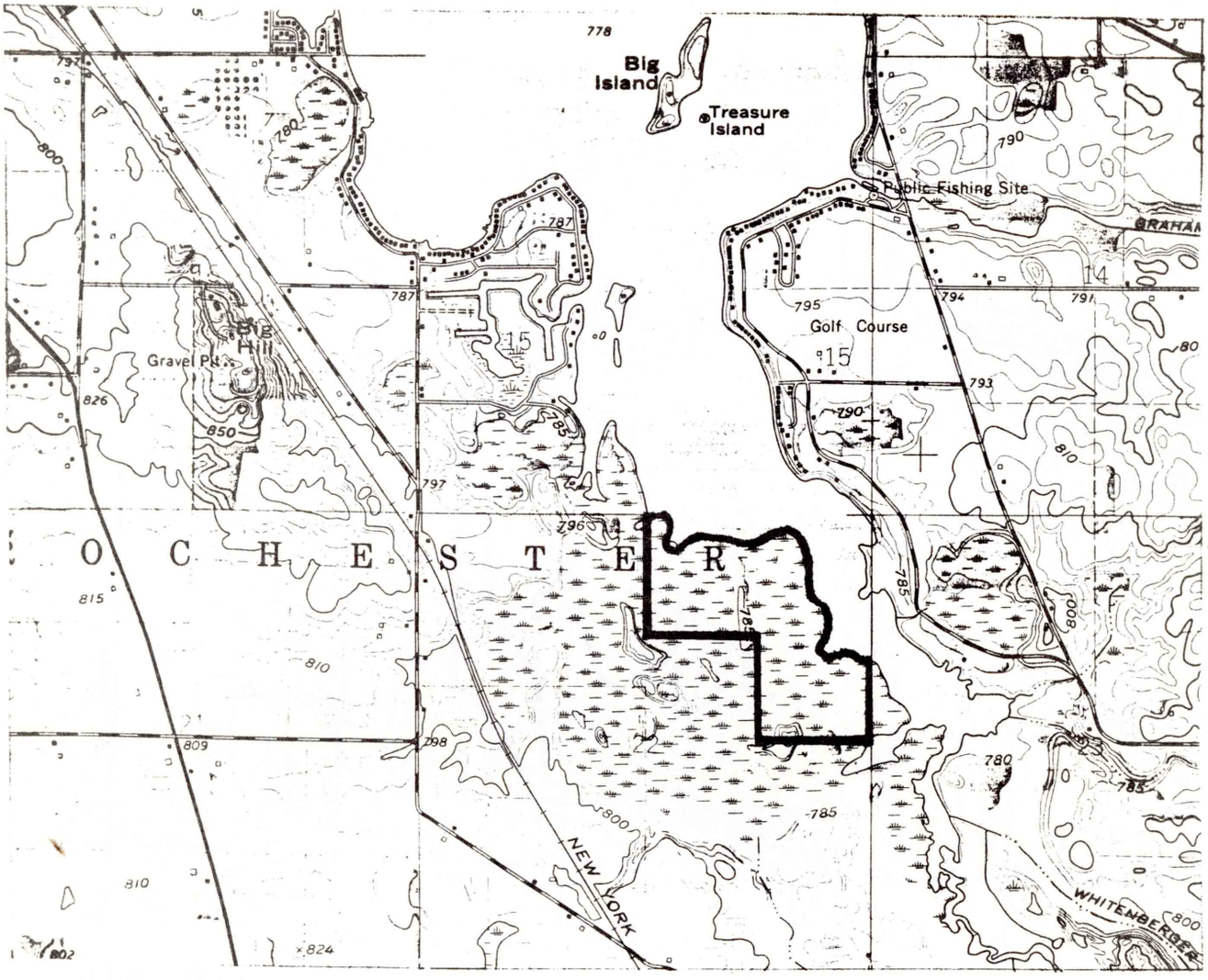
Originally established as a private nature and religious foundation for environmental education and spiritual enrichment, Merry Lea has been transferred to Goshen College with the assistance of The Nature Conservancy. Goshen College will use the area as an outdoor laboratory for environmental education.

Access and Further Information: Merry Lea Nature Preserve is available for public visitation by advanced arrangements which may be obtained from Merry Lea, Box 263, Wolflake, IN 46796. Telephone (219) 799-5869.

MANITOU ISLANDS WETLAND CONSERVATION AREA AND NATURE PRESERVE

County: Fulton
Size: 107 acres

Map: Rochester Quadrangle
Ownership: Division of Fish and Wildlife



Location: Located on the south end of Lake Manitou, which is just east of Rochester.

Description: This preserve contains several wetland community types. Many acres of high quality marshland are covered with cattails, lily pads, bulrushes, reed grass and many other grasses, sedges, and aquatic flowers. Here and there forested islands jut up out of the marshland. Some of these are forested with oaks and hickories, and others are covered with tamarack trees.

Wildlife abounds on the preserve. Marshland birds such as marsh wrens, rails, ducks, herons, red-winged blackbirds, and swamp sparrows are found throughout. Migration time brings even more waterfowl into the area. Muskrats, mink, deer, racoon, skunks and opossum are among the many mammals that may be seen.

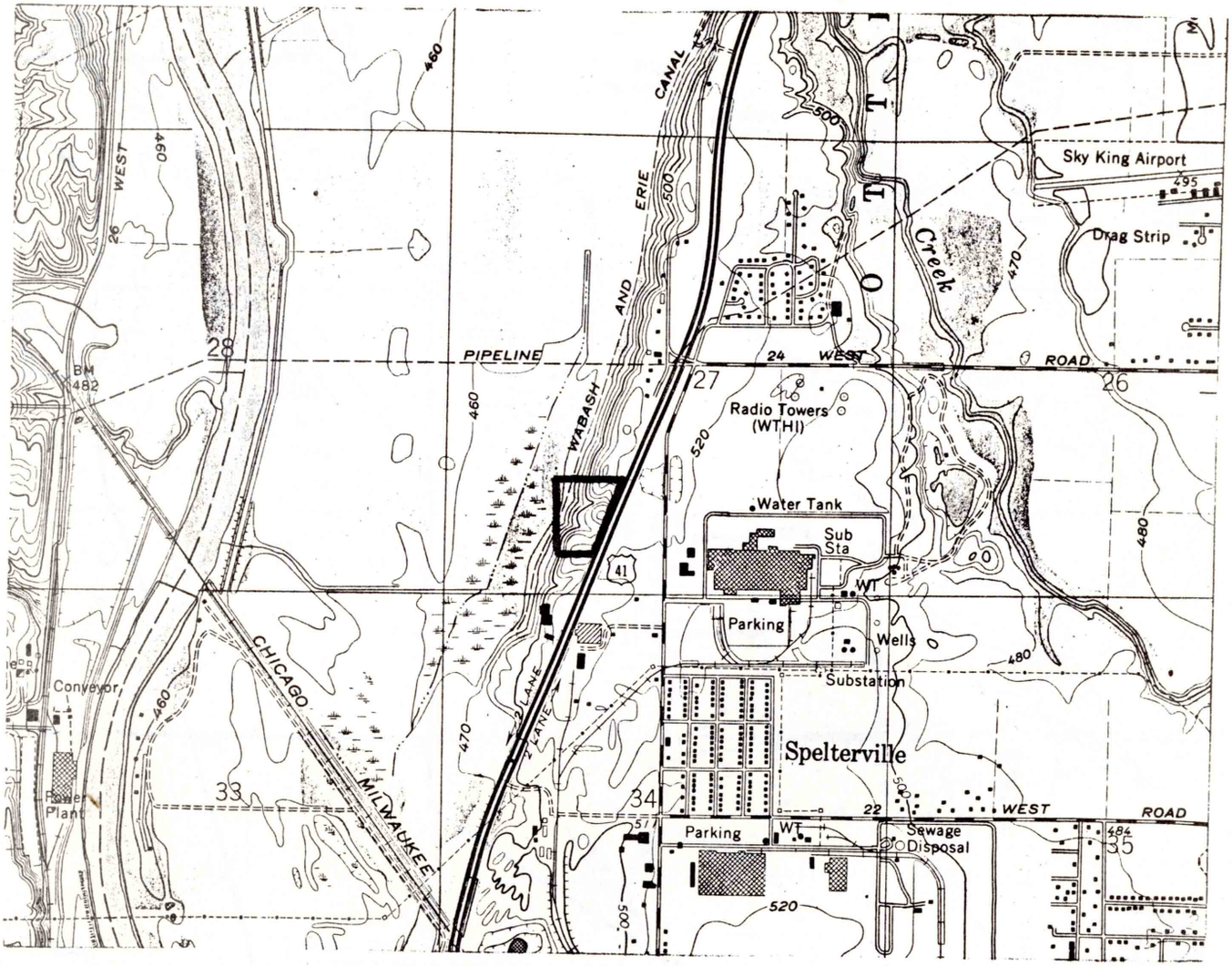
Access and Further Information: Access is by boat only. Boats may be launched at the public access site on the east side of the lake.

Further information is available from the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, IN 46204 or from the Division of Fish and Wildlife, 607 State Office Building, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

LITTLE BLUESTEM PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE

County: Vigo
Size: 8.5 acres

Map: New Goshen Quadrangle
Ownership: Indiana State University



Location: Located on the west side of U.S. Highway 41, north of Terre Haute. The Prairie is southwest of the conspicuous water tower marked "Anaconda" about one-half mile northwest of Spelterville.

Description: The main feature of this nature preserve is a dry sand prairie dominated by little bluestem grass. In presettlement times, approximately one fifth of Vigo County was prairie. Today, this little parcel is all that remains. Besides the dominant little bluestem, other prairie species include Indian grass, big bluestem, and round-headed bushclover.

The prairie is located on west-facing bluff overlooking the Wabash River. In the fall, the colorful grasses are highly visible to passing motorists on Route 41. Management of the prairie may include burning to reduce the invasion of woody plants.

Access and further information: At present, this preserve is not developed. Access is by permission only which may be obtained from Dr. Marshall Parks, Natural Lands Committee, Science Teaching Center, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana 47809. Phone (812) 232-6211 ext. 2636.

early boyhood days on this former farm, has made extensive studies of the woodland. The upper promontory has beech-maple, with 10 other species of substantial importance. Some old Beech trees reach a diameter of 40 inches. Large Tulip, Sugar Maple and Black Walnut also contribute to the impressiveness of this old forest.

Flowering Dogwood adds much beauty in the Spring. Ironwood, usually a small tree of the understory, reaches 14 inches in diameter.

Past cutting on the steep slopes reduced the number of older trees, but one Chinquapin Oak, 43 inches in diameter, is still standing.

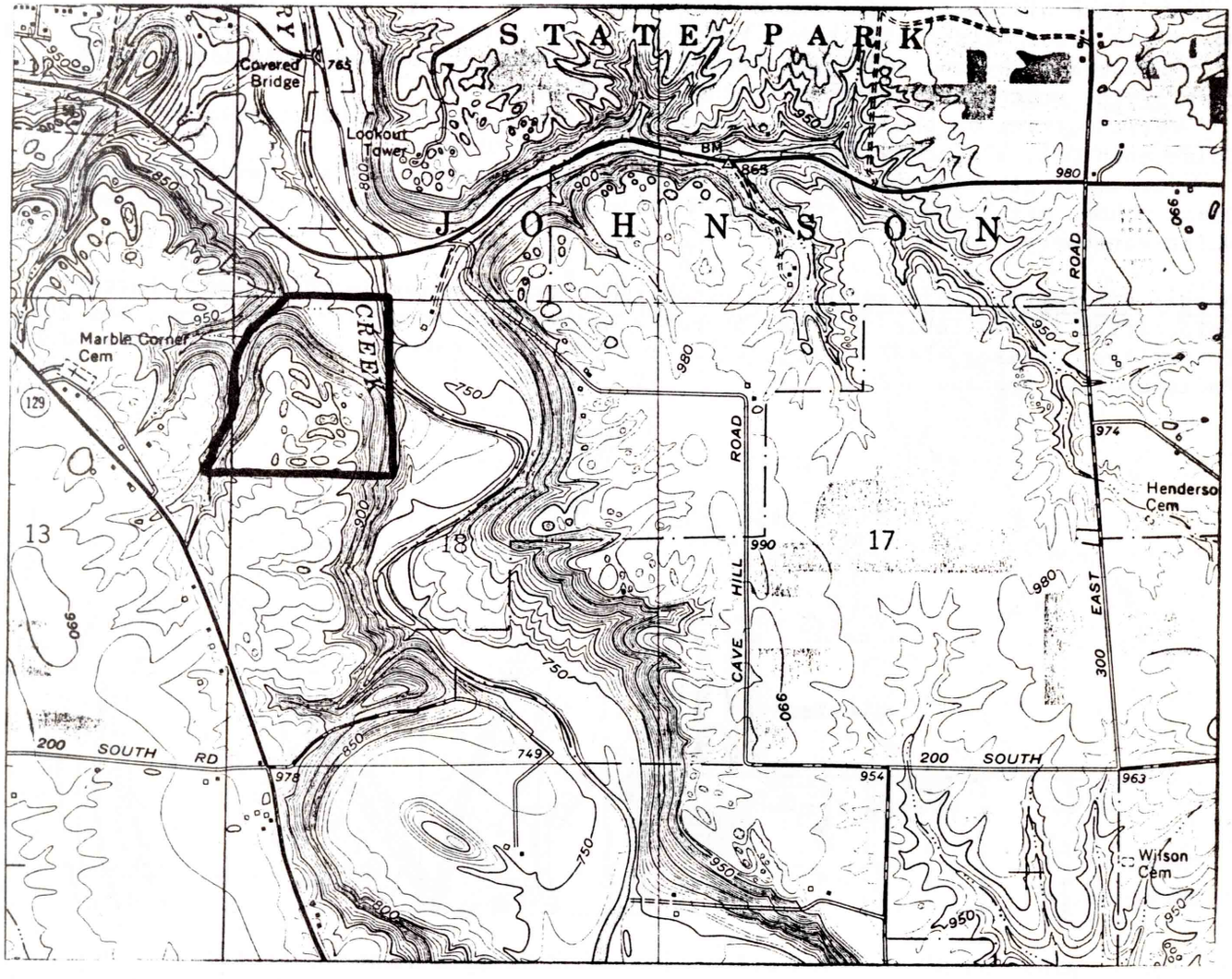
Ground vegetation is influenced by residual limestone soils. Twin-leaf and Black Cohosh are found with the usual Mayapple, Jack-in-the-pulpit, Bloodroot and White Baneberry.

Access and further information: No established trails exist in this area. Further information is available from the property manager of Versailles State Park, Box 205, Versailles, Indiana 47402 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Laughery Bluff Nature Preserve

County: Ripley
Size: 81 acres

Map: Milan Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: This Nature Preserve is located in Versailles State Park and is outlined on the State Park map available at the gate house or park office.

Description: This Bluff overlooks the deeply-incised valley carved by Laughery Creek in Versailles State Park in Southeastern Indiana. In fact, the Nature Preserve extends down the side hill to the flood plain along this stream. The tract is of unusual floral and geological significance.

It is underlain by flat-lying limestones and shales of the Silurian Age. This formation is well exposed on the Western boundary of the area in a tributary stream bed. There is a sloping wet weather waterfall about 23 feet high. Stratified layers are highly fossilized with animals that lived during the period when this section was covered by an Inland Sea.

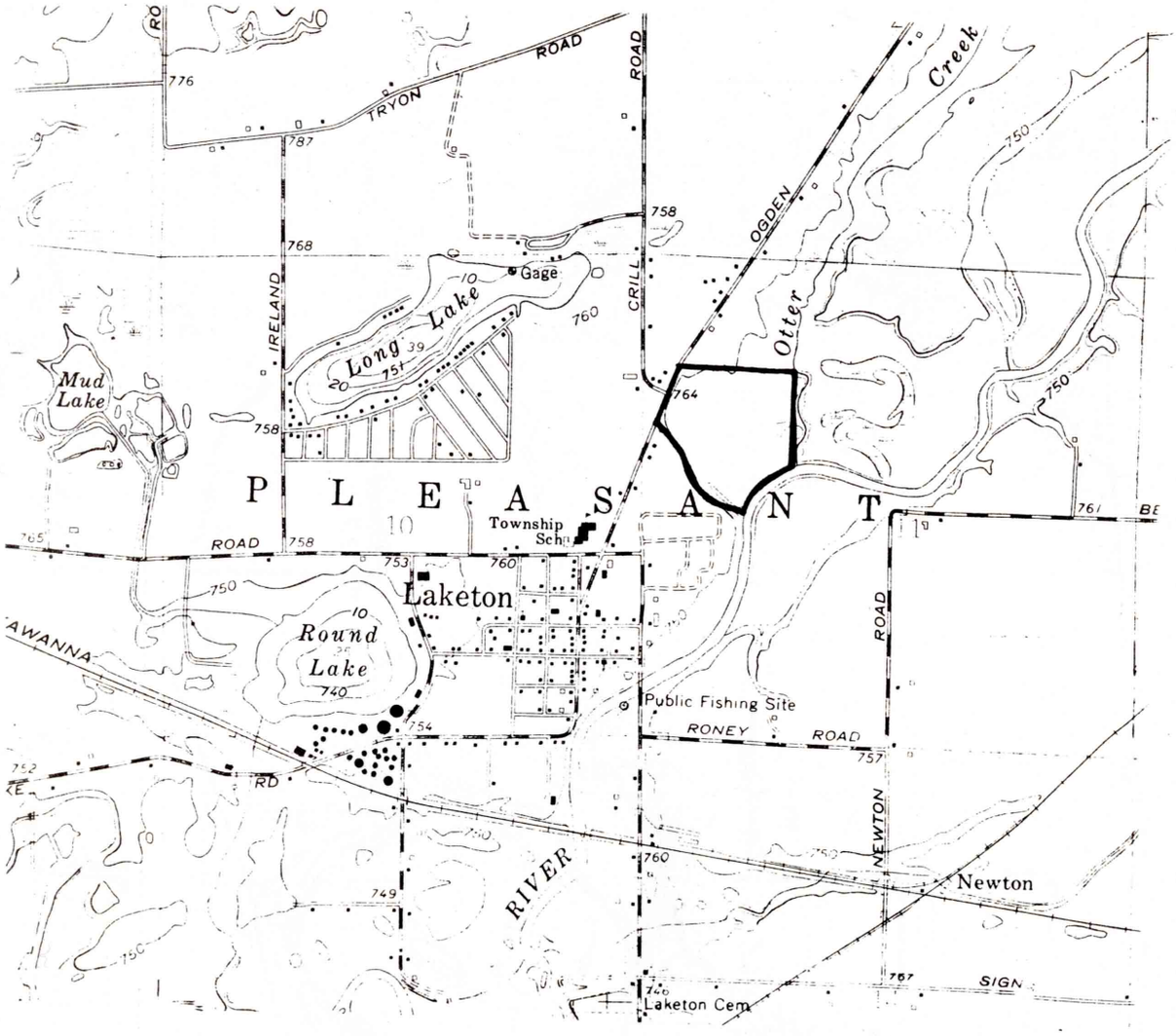
Fossils in the rock strata in the upper end of this valley, as well as those found in fragmented rock slabs in the stream bed below, are rich with Brachiopods, Corals, Bryozoans and Gastropods.

Dr. Marion T. Jackson, an ecologist at Indiana State University, who spent his

LAKETON BOG NATURE PRESERVE

County: Wabash
Size: 32 acres

Map; North Manchester South Quadrangle
Ownership: Nature Preserves



Location: From the town of Laketon, take Ogden Road approximately one-half mile northeast to the intersection of Crill Road. A pull off lane is to the east of the intersection.

Description: This area contains the southernmost stand of tamarack in Indiana. Situated between a bluff and Eel River, this peat-filled depression is kept wet by seepage coming from the base of the bluff. Besides the tree swamp where the tamaracks are found, other communities represented include shrub swamp, marsh, and floodplain forest.

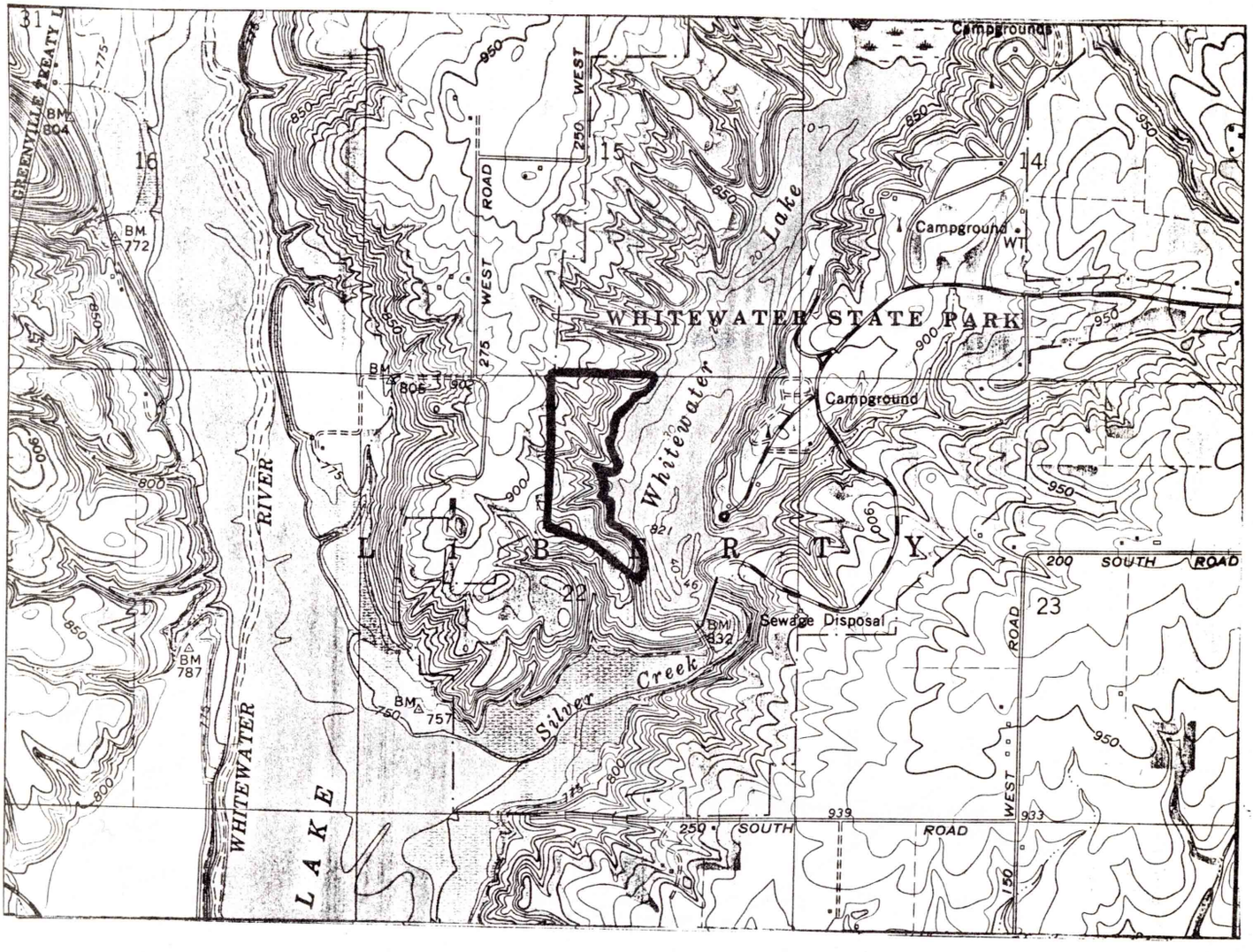
Skunk cabbage and marsh marigold are abundant spring flowers. Shrubs are well represented and include several species of willows, red ozier dogwood, ninebark, shrubby cinquefoil, and dwarf birch.

Access and further information: This preserve is currnetly undeveloped. A trail will provide access to the area in the future. At present, access is by permission only

Further information is available from the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

County: Union
Size: 37 acres

Map: New Fairfield Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: Hornbeam is located on Whitewater State Park and is outlined on the State Park map obtainable at the gate house or park office.

Description: A 37-acre area on the West side of Whitewater Lake in Whitewater State Park has been dedicated as an example of a mixed (mesophytic) hardwood forest in the East-Central part of Indiana. The forest type tends towards Beech-Maple, but the high numbers of Red Oak, Green Ash and some Hickory rate it as mesophytic. The understory contains an unusual number of large Ironwood and Blue Beech. The two trees are collectively known as Hornbeams, thus prompting the name of this Nature Preserve.

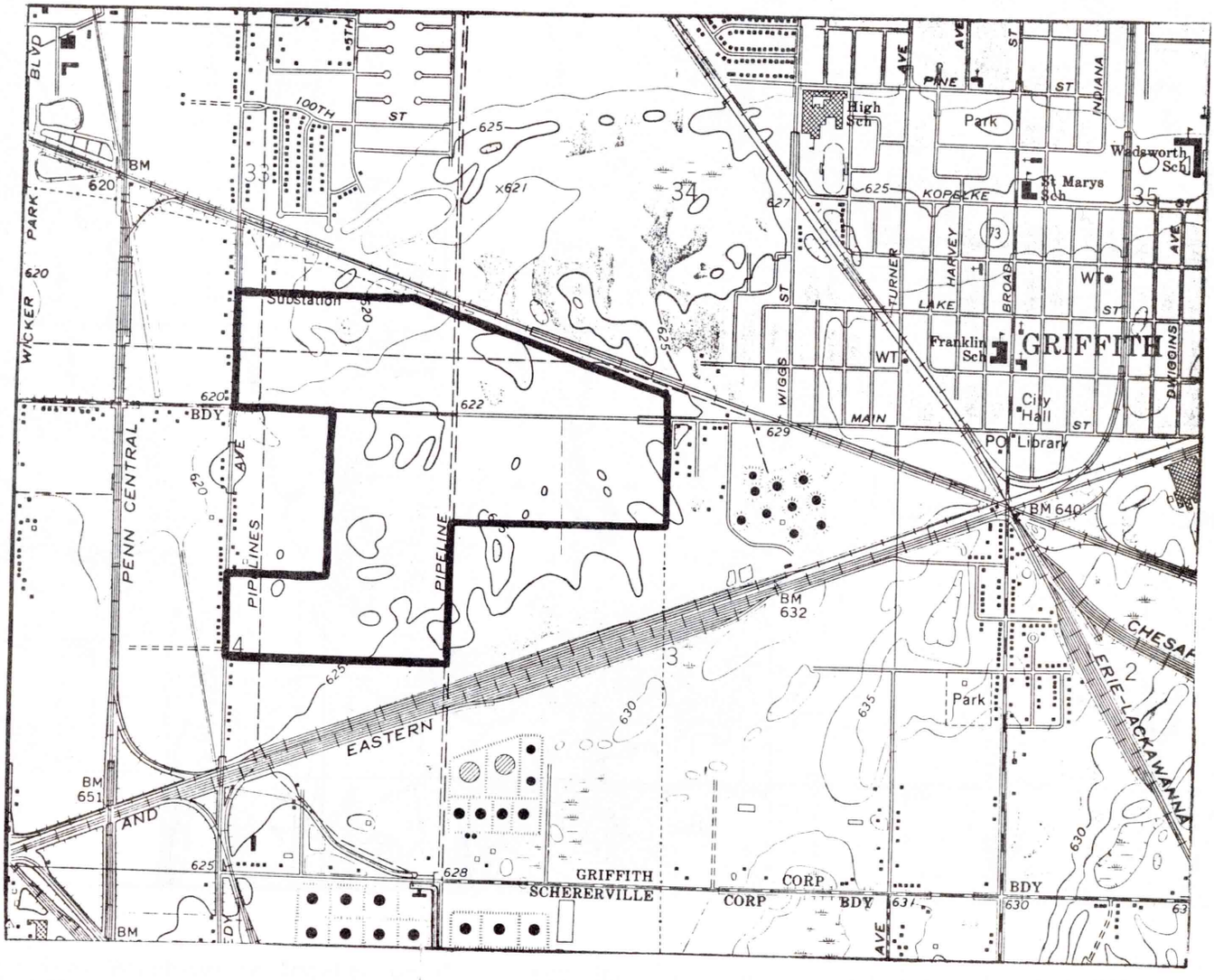
Spring wildflowers carpet the ground, with an unusual density of cut-leaved Toothwort and Bedstraws. Dutchmen's-Breeches, Jewelweed, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Bloodroot, Violets, and Solomon's Seal are other species. Large-flower Trillium and Twinleaf are also of interest.

Access and further information: Trail 5 of the State Park system transverses this area and a seasonal naturalist is available during the Summer months. Further information is available from the property manager of Whitewater State Park, RR #2, Liberty, Indiana 47353 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Hoosier Prairie Nature Preserve

County: Lake
Size: 304 acres

Map: Highland Quadrangle
Ownership: Nature Preserves



Location: This Nature Preserve is located just west of Griffith on Main Street.

Description: A remnant of the once-extensive Cady Marsh, this Preserve is listed as a National Natural Landmark and has exceptionally high plant diversity. Present are areas of wet and dry prairie, Oak savannah, wetlands and marsh. There are more than 300 plant species identified from Hoosier Prairie, several of which are rare in Indiana.

With the coming of settlers to this part of the State, the wild fires were suppressed which had occurred naturally or were started by Indians. Burning is necessary to maintain grasslands in this part of the country. Consequently, much of the grassland has reverted to woody vegetation.

To combat this and retain diversity, it will be necessary to use controlled burning to destroy woody vegetation and promote prairie plants.

Access and further information: Plans for Hoosier Prairie include fencing, parking areas, and self-guiding trails. Until these are completed there are no visitor facilities. Further information may be obtained from the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Hemmer Woods Nature Preserve

County: Gibson
Size: 72 acres

Map: Lynnville Quadrangle
Ownership: Nature Preserves

Location: From Buckskin take County Road 900S approximately 2½ miles east to County Road 1050E thence 3/4 mile north to a marked parking lot.

Description: This old-growth woods in Gibson County contains 72 acres of the original forests of Southwestern Indiana. The larger upland portion supports the Oak-Hickory type, with large White Oak and Black Oak as the dominant trees. There are also nice specimens of White Ash, Red Oak and Sassafras, along with Pignut, Small-fruited Hickory and Shagbark Hickorys. The bottom land has Sweet Gum, tulip, River Birch, Sycamore, Wild Black Cherry and mixed Oaks. These outstanding features have merited its recognition as a registered National Natural Landmark.

A dense understory of Flowering Dogwood and Pawpaw stands above large beds of Spring wildflowers.

Access and further information: A self-guided trail has been established in this area that circles through the upland forest. Additional information may be obtained from the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

side of the bluff, exposing a steep bank of Mississippian shale some 20 feet high.

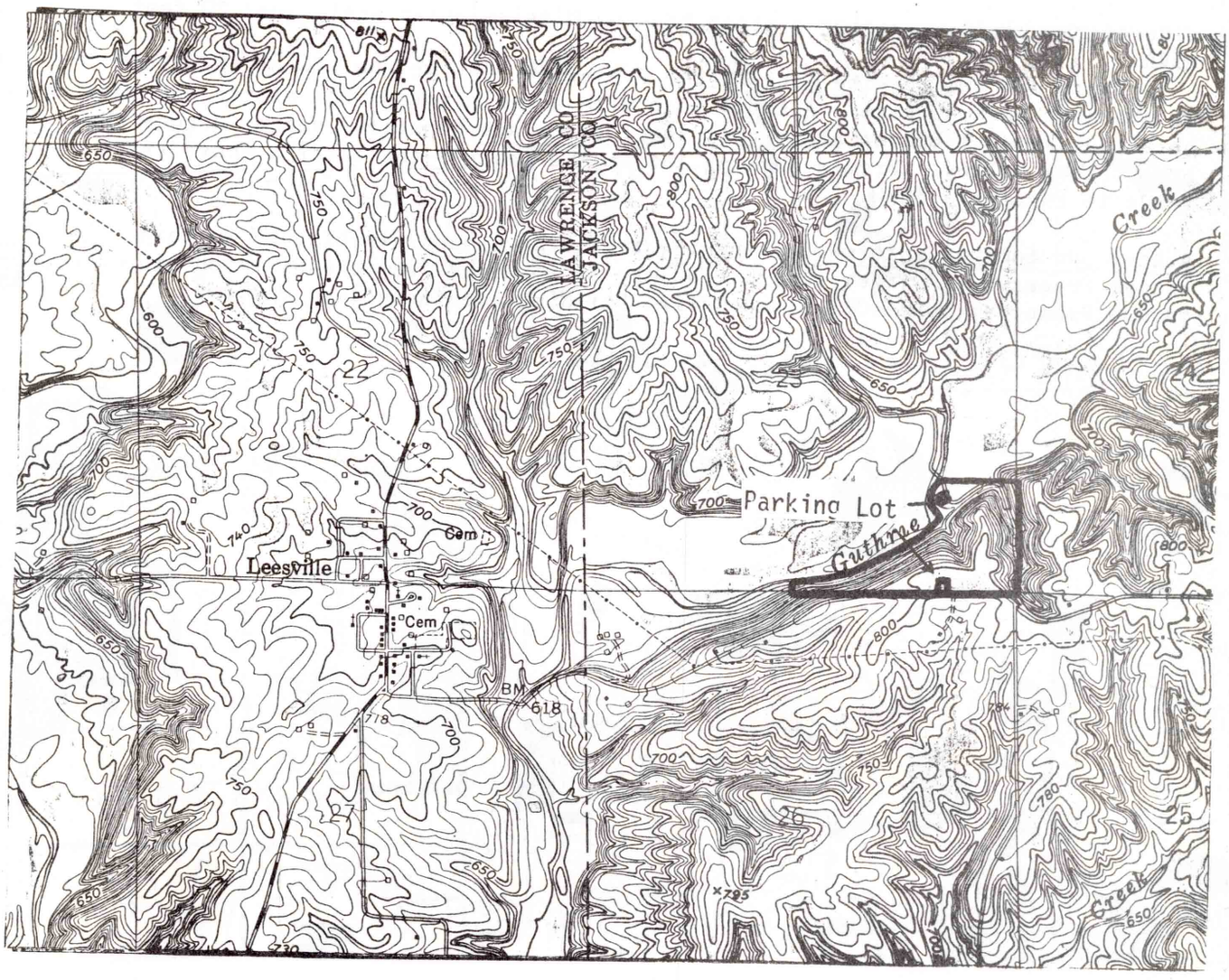
There are two parking lots at the Preserve. One at the top of the bluff is the main parking area. A trail loop with a registration box starts and ends here. At several points along this trail there are beautiful vistas across the broad creek valley. From a parking lot at the base of the bluff a short trail leads to the shale bank.

Access and further information: Hiking trails have been established in this Nature Preserve. Further information may be obtained from the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Hemlock Bluff Nature Preserve

County: Jackson
Size: 44 acres

Map: Tunnelton Quadrangle
Ownership: Nature Preserves



Location: Hemlock Bluff can be reached by driving to Leesville, about three miles south of U.S. Highway 50 between Bedford and Brownstown near the Lawrence-Jackson County line. On the south side of Leesville, turn left on County Road 126S and go 1½ miles to the parking lot. Another parking lot can be reached by driving past the main parking lot and turning left on County Road 1200W.

Description: Hemlock Bluff was a Bicentennial gift to the State of Indiana by the Garden Club of Indiana, Inc., in cooperation with the Nature Conservancy.

Most of the Preserve is located on a steep bluff along Guthrie Creek. The slopes support Hemlocks and deciduous hardwood trees, especially Beech and Maple, Red Oak, Basswood and Red Elm. The State champion Hemlock is found here, measuring more than 33 inches in diameter at a height of 4½ feet above the ground.

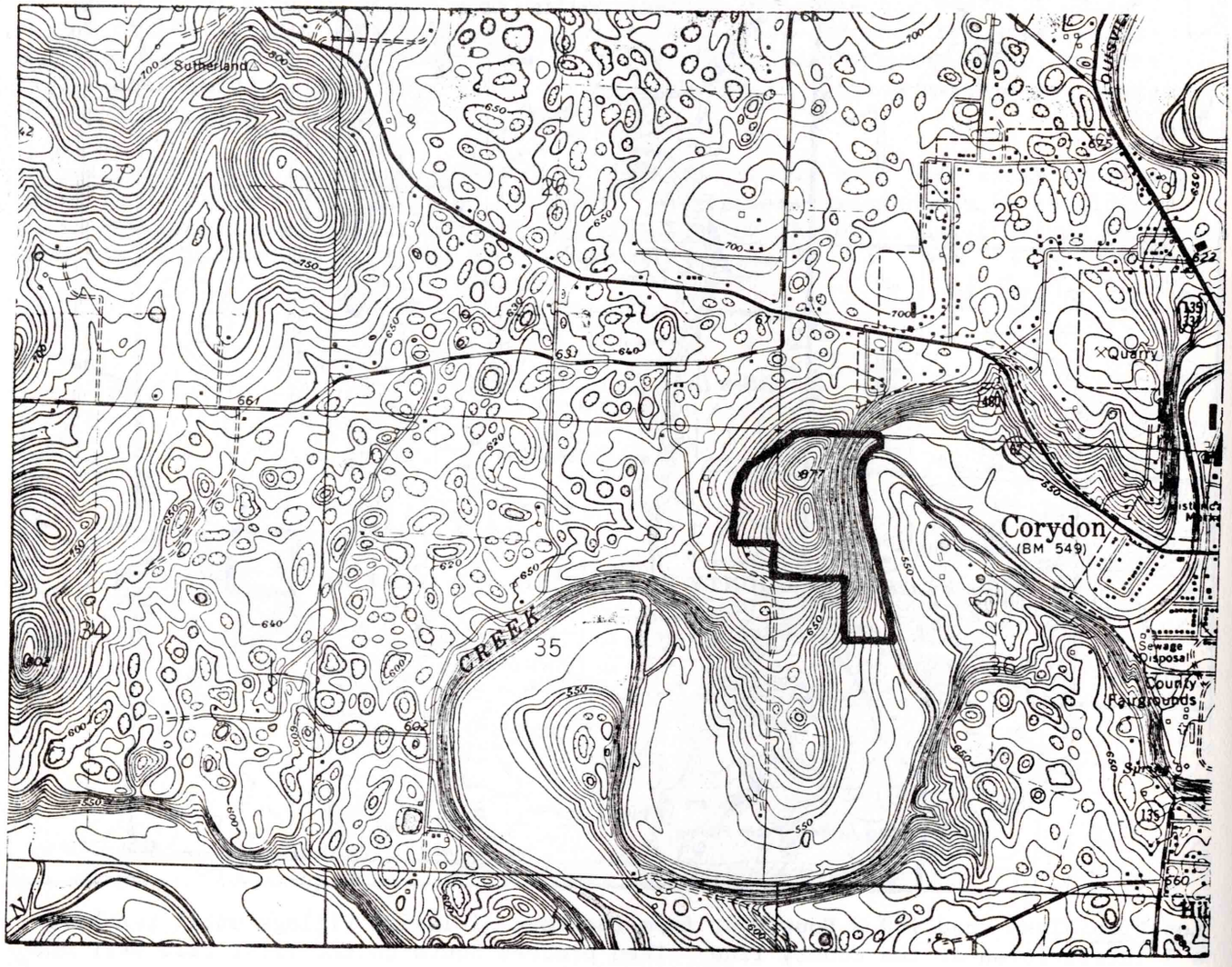
Spring wildflowers include Trillium, Hepatica, May Apple, and Wild Ginger, along with a variety of ferns such as Spleenwort, Maidenhair Fern and Marginal Shield Fern. In Summer and Fall, the Jewelweed, Goatsbeard, Lobelia, Bellflower and Wild Bergamot can be found growing in profusion.

Guthrie Creek is a scenic addition to the Preserve. Although dry for part of the Summer it usually runs full. At one place, Guthrie Creek cuts into the

Hayswood Nature Preserve

County: Harrison
Size: 36 acres

Map: Corydon West Quadrangle
Ownership: Harrison County Park and Recreation Board



Location: This Nature Preserve can be reached from State Highway 135, ½ mile south of its junction with State Highway 62.

Description: This 44-acre tract is located in Harrison County on and around Pilot Knob, a prominent local landmark near Corydon. It is owned and managed by the Harrison County Park and Recreation Board as a part of the County Park known as Hayswood Nature Preserve. The land was given to Harrison County by Dr. Samuel Hays.

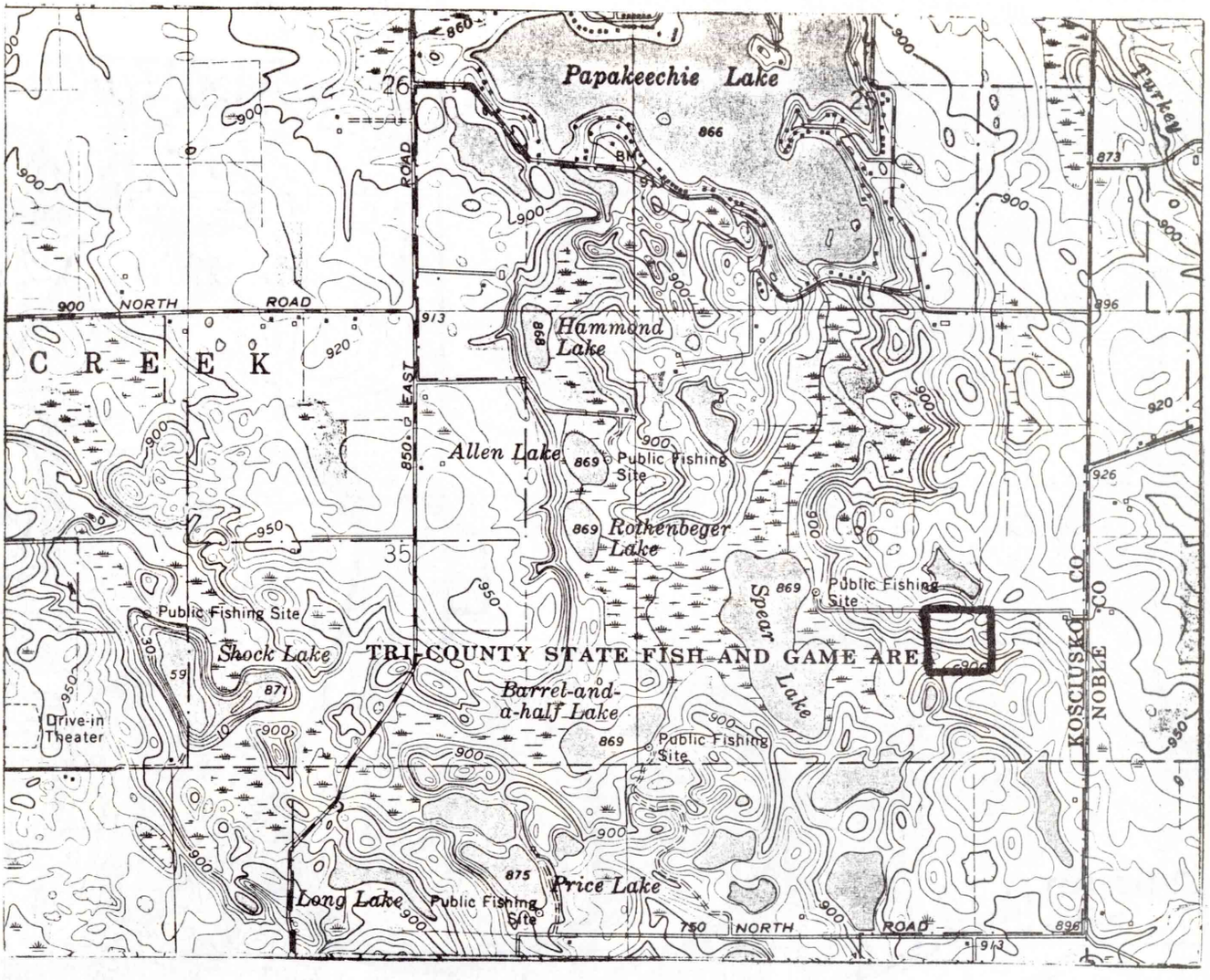
The tract overlooks Indian Creek and is heavily wooded, primarily in Beech-Maple and Oak-Hickory. Because an extremely heavy fall of Oak leaves occurs every year there are very few wildflowers.

Access and further information: The park has a self-guiding Nature trail just outside the bounds of the Nature Preserve. The preserved area itself has no developments. Further information may be obtained from the Harrsion County Park and Recreation Board, Courthouse, Corydon, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Grider's Woods Nature Preserve

County: Kosciusko
Size: 10 acres

Map: N.Webster Quadrangle
Ownership: Fish and Wildlife



Location: Take road 100 N Southwest from the town of Indian Village until reaching a T intersection at the county line. Then proceed South to the first road West and follow the latter road to a routed sign and parking area.

Description: Jethro Grider formerly owned this small woodlot on the Tri-County State Fish and Wildlife Area. It was once part of the Flatbelly Indian Reservation.

There is a good mixture of Oaks and Hickories, interspersed with Sugar Maple, Black Walnut, White Ash and Tulip. Several trees exceed 30 inches in diameter, including White Ash, Black Oak, Chinquapin Oak and Red Oak.

The shrub layer includes Woodbine, Smooth Blackhaw, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Greenbrier, Pawpaw, Hazelnut, Grape, Gooseberry and Raspberry.

In the Spring the ground is carpeted with Spring Beauty, Bloodroot, Anemones, May Apple, and beds of Large-Flower Trillium. Later blooming species are True and False Solomon's Seal, Sweet Cicely, Lady's Thumb, Smartweed, Coneflower, Bedstraws, Nettle and Appendaged Waterleaf.

Access and further information: A self-guiding nature trail with 25 marked stations transverses interesting ecosystems found within the area.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the property manager of Tri-County Fish and Wildlife Area, R.R.# 2, Box 395, Syracuse, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

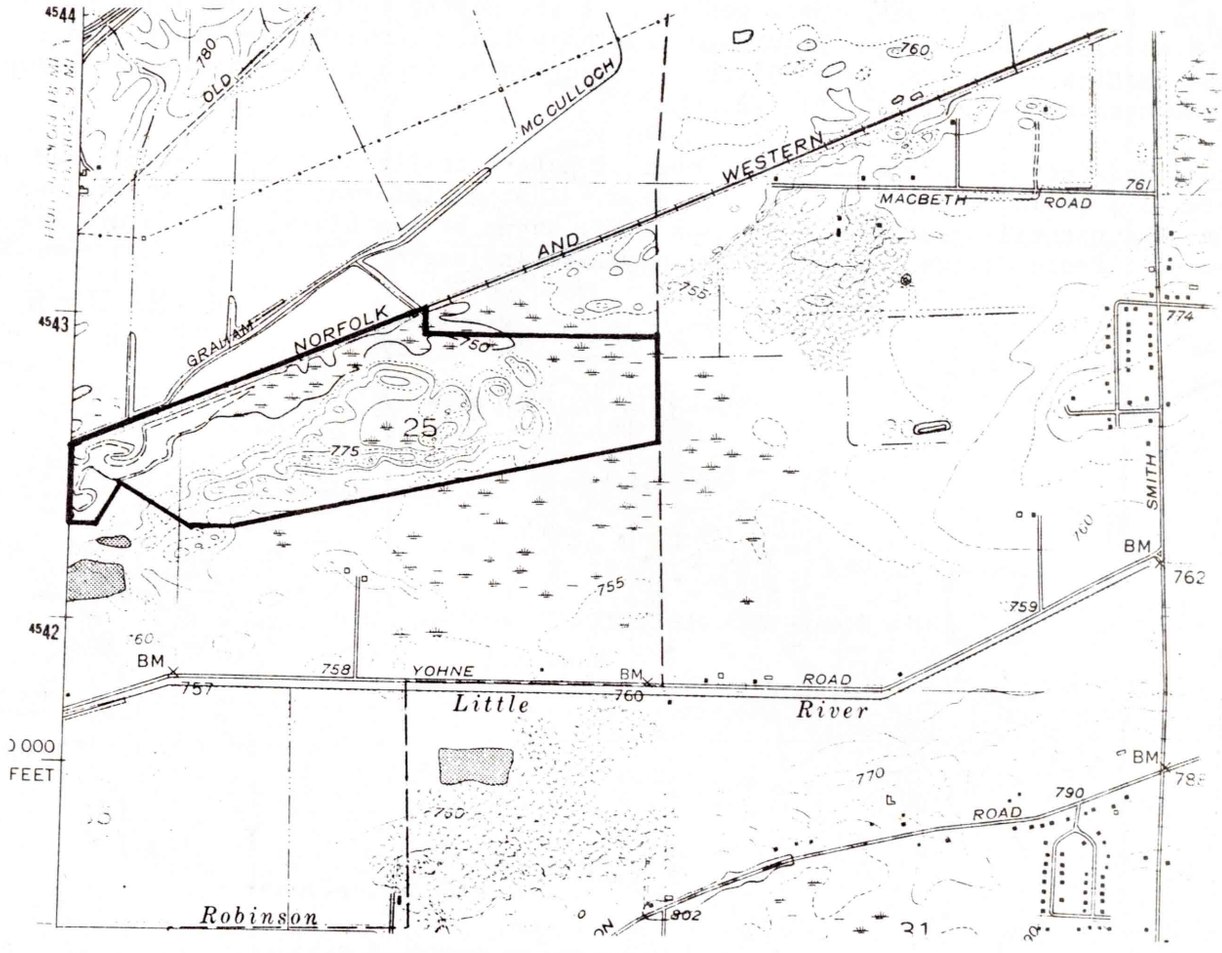
Fox Island also is of historical signigicance, as early explorers in this region of the Midwest used these wetlands as the portage between the Great Lakes and Mississippi drainages. From Lake Erie they came up the Maumee River, and the lower section of the St. Marys River before crossing into these marshes and swamps in the headwaters of the Little Wabash.

Access and further information: A number of nature trails have been established and there is a resident naturalist at the area. Further information may be obtained from the naturalist at 7324 Yohne Road, Ft. Wayne or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Fox Island Nature Preserve

County: Allen
Size: 220 acres

Quad: Fort Wayne West
Ownership: Allen County Park and Recreation Board



Location: Fox Island may be reached by going West from Ft. Wayne on U.S. Highway 24 to Ellison Road thence South to Yohne Road and then East to the marked entrance.

Description: The Allen County Park and Recreation Board purchased this 381-acre tract for outdoor use by its citizens. The entire Northern portion of 220 acres is set aside as a Nature Preserve for the protection of its unique biotic and geological features.

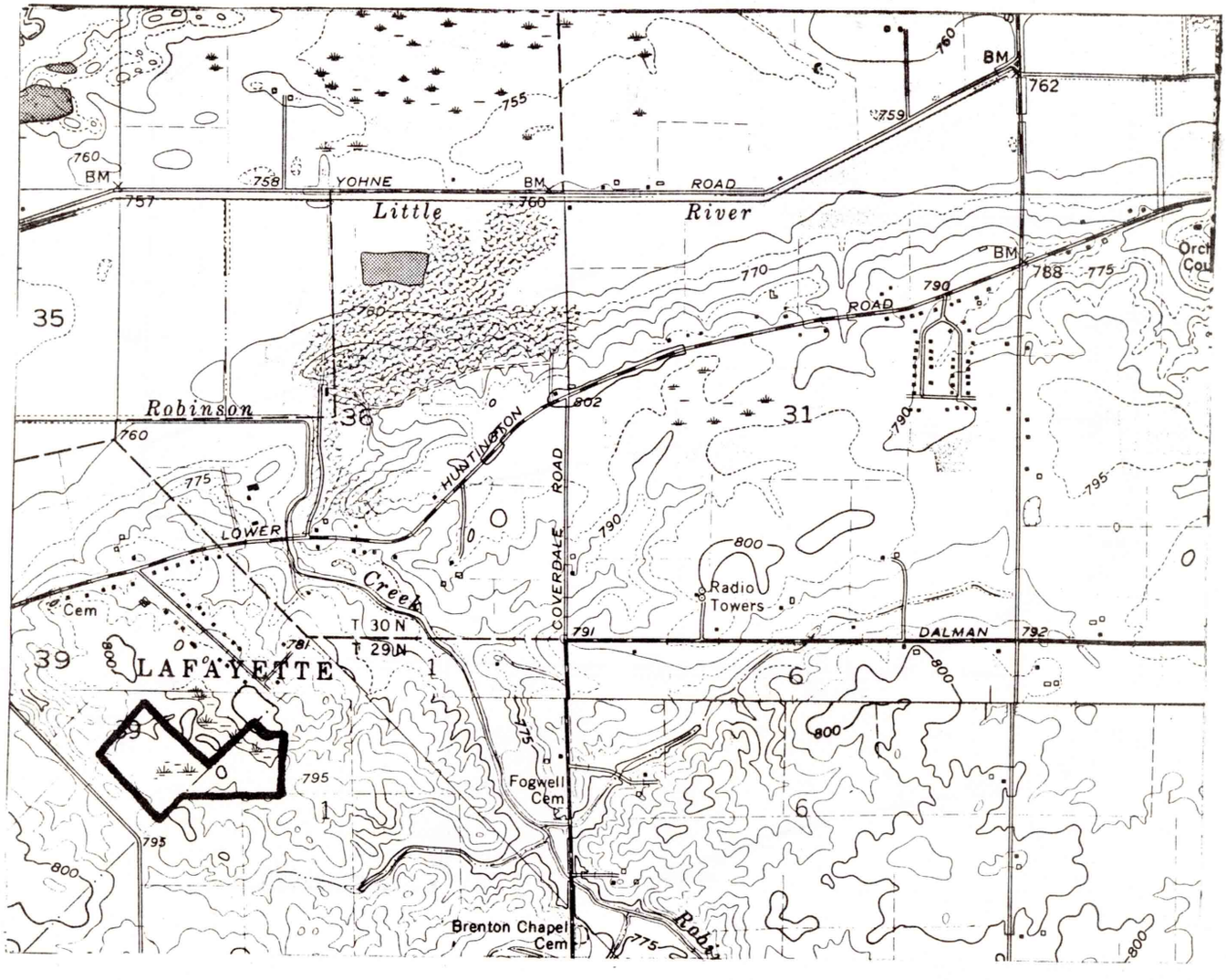
There are marshes and swamps that border a dune developed after the recession of the last Wisconsin glacier. Fourteen different soil types have been identified. These land and water forms in turn, have created a diversity of plant and animal ecosystems.

Old fields are in various successional stages. Black Oak predominates on the higher dry dunes. White Oak, Black Walnut and Wild Black Cherry increase on moist slopes, and are replaced by Willows, Cottonwood and Sycamore on lower mucky soils. Wetlands in the Northwest part have open water surrounded by emergent vegetation. These features also contribute to faunal distribution, with 83 species of birds being listed along with many mammals.

Fogwell Forest Nature Preserve

County: Allen
Size: 28 acres

Map: Ossian, Ft. Wayne West Quadrangle
Ownership: Acres, Inc.



Location: Follow Bluffton Road South from Fort Wayne to Lower Huntington Road in Waynedale and then go West to Whippoorwill Drive. Hiking access is from the end of this road.

Description: This Nature Preserve contains an old second growth forest growing on a slightly rolling upland with poorly drained depressions. The drier sites are dominated by Sugar Maple, Beech, White Oak and Red Oak with a variety of other species represented. Wet areas contain Bur Oak, Red Maple, Swamp White Oak, Green Ash, and Buttonbush.

The understory includes Dogwood, Spicebush, Pawpaw and Maple-leaved Viburnum and Trilliums, Dutchman's Breeches, Trout lily, Bloodroot and Violets are common on the forest floor in the Spring.

Access and further information: No hiking trails exist in this area at present. Further information may be obtained from Acres, Inc., 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

The foredunes are characterized by a series of hills and swales. Ridge tops exist at different elevations, with intervening saddles. Mt. Tom is the highest point, being 186 feet above the Lake. In between these high points and ridges in the foredunes are three important depressions: *Beach House*, *Furnessville*, and *Big Blowouts*.

The interdunes area is composed of a series of hills surrounding pockets and troughs, as well as the inner sections of the larger blow-outs. There are secondary peaks, *Mount Jackson* being 181 feet high.

Blowouts extend into this area. The continuous shifting of sand uncovers trees that were completely buried years ago. Remains of a former *White Pine* forest can be seen in the *Tree Graveyard* part of *Big Blowout*.

The backdunes area begins on the windward side of active blowouts in some places and on protected ridges elsewhere. Leeward slopes usually face the Southeast.

Tops and upper leeward slopes of the backdunes are forested with nearly pure stands of Black Oak, mixed with a few White Oak and stunted Sassafras. Thick stands of Blueberry, Bracken Fern and Greenbrier are found in the understory. Starry False Solomon's Seal is one of the few plants blooming in late May.

Sandy flats, and lower ground with greater organic matter, border the swamps and marshes lying to the South. One sheltered cove has native White Pines, up to 26 inches d.b.h., associated with Oaks, Tulip, White Ash and Basswood.

Mid-May finds the forest floor with dense stands of flowering plants. The umbrella leaves of May Apple shade Wild Geranium and Large-Flower Trillium with their beautiful white petals that turn pink with age, Jack-in-the-pulpit emerges in beds of Skunk Cabbage. In other places, the small white flowers of the Canada Mayflower can be found with Indian Cucumber-root.

The second physiographic region, up to ½ mile wide, occupies low ground South of the dunes. These contribute to the headwaters of a tributary flowage into Dunes Creek.

The third physiographic region begins on the South edge of the marshy ground and extends to the South boundary. It marks the beginning of one of the earlier shorelines of prehistoric *Lake Chicago*. Although there is a gradual down-slope to the North, plant zonation does not follow this pattern, due to local differences in drainage and plant nutrients.

Best examples of mesophytic forests are found in rolling sandy areas abutting swamps. More mature stands contain some of the largest specimen trees.

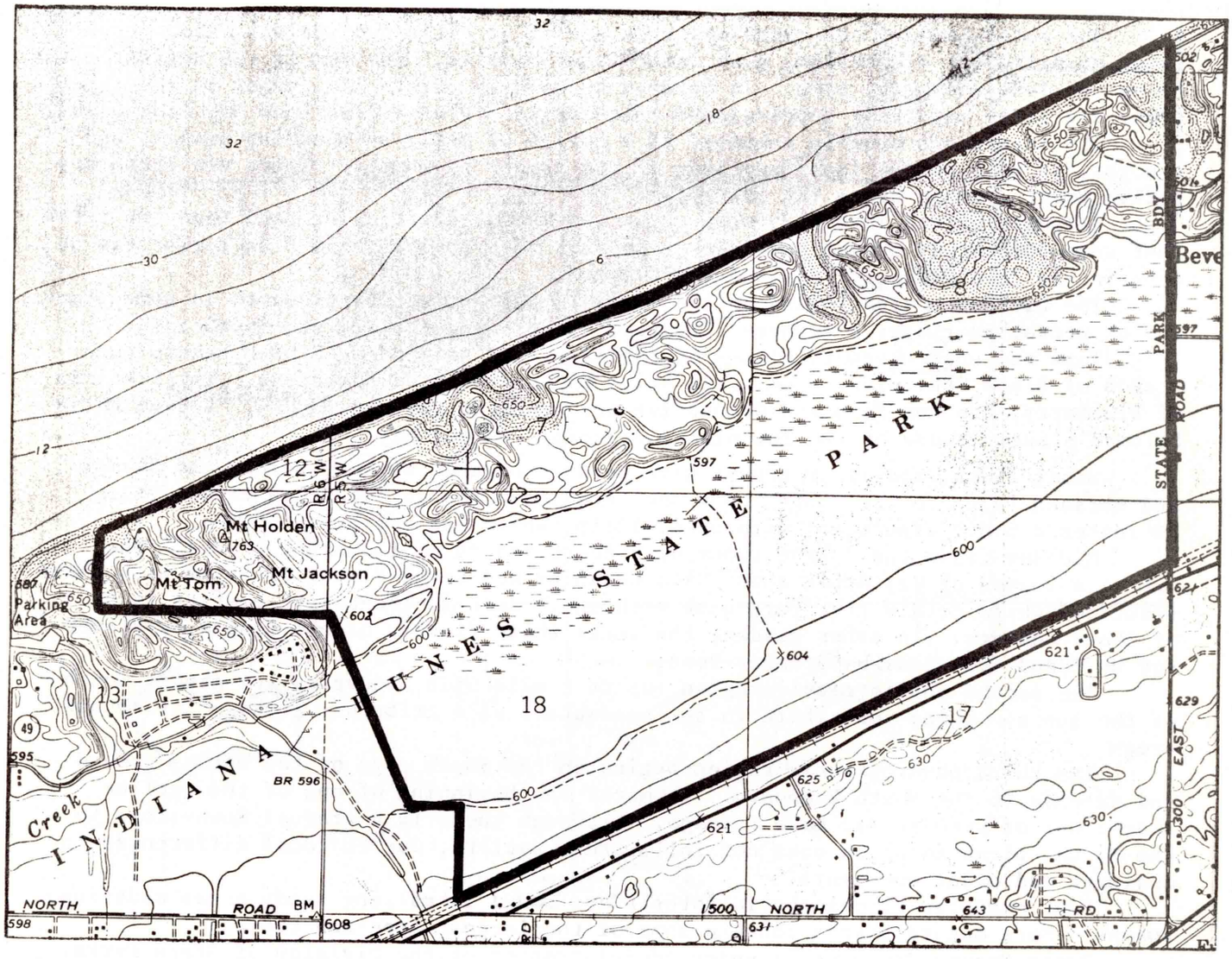
Dunes Nature Preserve is under administration of the Division of State Parks. It is located three miles north of Chesterton in Porter County on U.S. Highway 20.

Access and further information: Established hiking trails exist within the Nature Preserve and a seasonal naturalist is available to offer interpretive information. For further details contact the property manager of Indiana Dunes State Park, box 322, Chesterton, Indiana 46304 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

DUNES NATURE PRESERVE

County: Porter
Size: 1530 acres

Map: Dune Acres Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Directions to area: This Nature Preserve comprises the eastern two-thirds of Dunes State Park. Enter via the park entrance, park in the pavilion parking lot, and walk east along established trails.

Description: Strong winds from the North and West have sculptured a nationally famous dunescape along our Hoosier shore of Lake Michigan. It is fortunate that a significant part of this geological phenomenon still remains in the Indiana Dunes State Park. It is also appropriate that 1,530 acres of this 2,182-acre Park have been dedicated as the largest Nature Preserve in the State-wide system.

The first evidence of Nature's control of shifting sands can be found where the base of the dunes meets the more level lakeshore. Beach grass, with its spreading underground root system, establishes little islands of cover in the wind-blown sand.

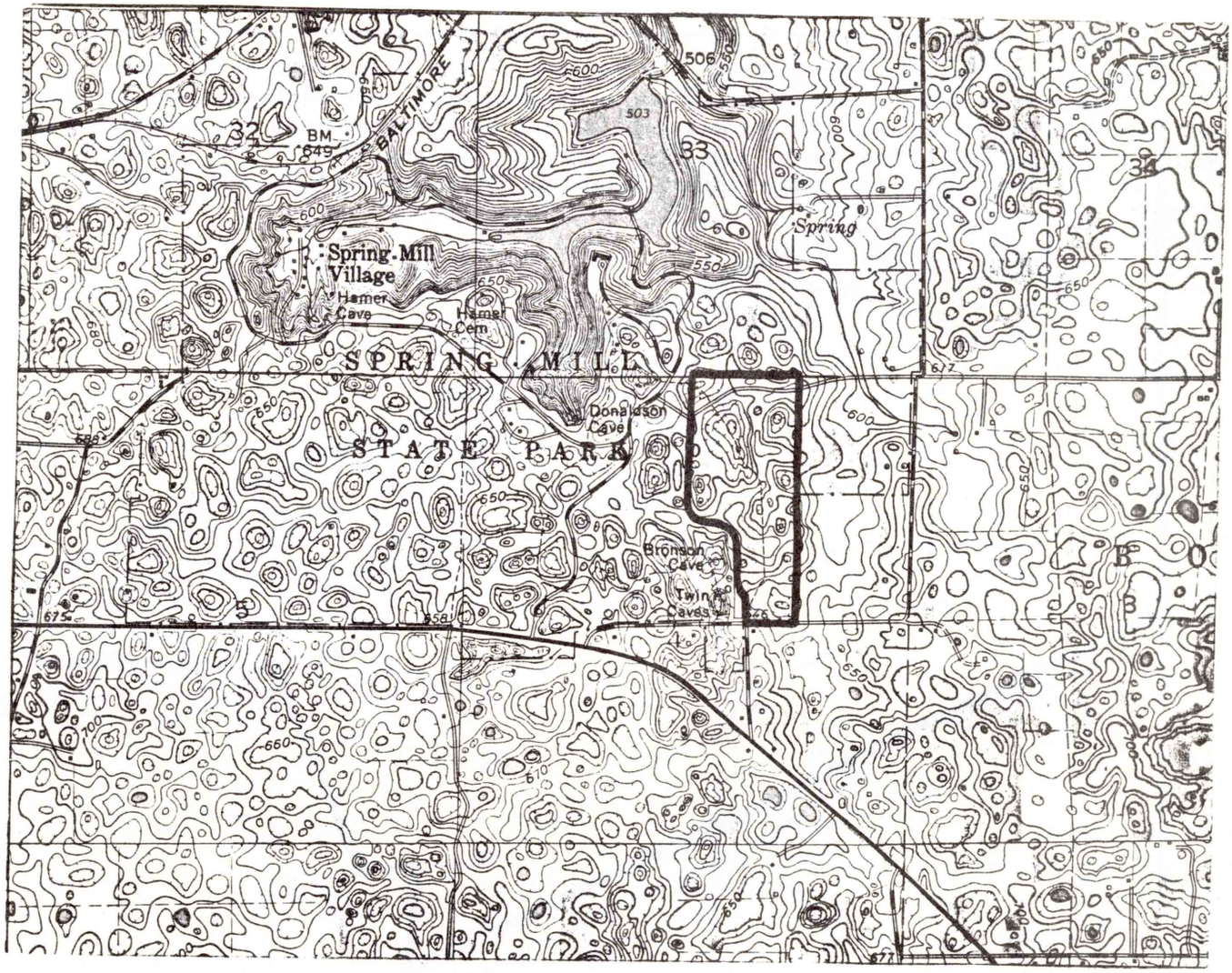
Here and there, small mats of Bearberry (Kinnickinnic), a procumbent evergreen shrub, add more stability to the soil. Sumacs, Sand Cherry, Cottonwood, and Prostrate Juniper gradually take over with increases in elevation. A few isolated stands of Jack Pine still persist on these lakeward slopes.

Access and further information: A portion of the State Park trail number three transverses this Nature Preserve and a naturalist is available to provide interpretive information. Additional details may be obtained from the property manager of Spring Mill State Park, Box 376, Mitchell, Indiana 47446 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Donaldson's Woods Nature Preserve

County: Lawrence
Size: 67 acres

Map: Mitchell Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: Donaldson's Woods is located in the Southeastern corner of Spring Mill State Park and is marked on the park map available at the gate house or vistor's center.

Description: This undisturbed old-growth woods is recognized by botanists as the most impressive stand of the original forests remaining in Indiana.

The mixture of Beech-Maple and Oak-Hickory types classifies it as a Western mesophytic forest. However, recent studies indicate that Beech-Maple is assuming greater importance.

An unusual feature is the high percentage of White Oaks, with one measuring 48 inches. The largest tuplip (Poplar) is 52 inches in diameter.

Spicebush, Maple Leaf Viburnum, Woodbine, Poison Ivy, Hazelnut, Coralberry, Wild Grape, Toothed Arrowhead and Black Haw are ranking shrubs.

In the Fall, herbaceaous plants are represented by Greenbrier, Bedstraws, Yellow Agrimony, Sanicle, White Snakeroot, Hog Peanut and Lopseed.

The area is in the famous karst region of Indiana and has sinkhole drainage. Twin Caves adjoin the tract.

In the Summer, the Wild Phlox, Fire Pink, Sweet Cicely, and True and False Solomon's Seal grow beneath the trees. Autumn flowers include Jewelweed, White Snakeroot, Clearweed and the Great Blue Lobilea.

Directly above the mouth of the cave the extremely steep slope is dry and offers a suitable growing site for very few plants. Those that do grow successfully must be adapted to harsh, dry conditions. Therefore it is not too surprising that many of the plants growing there are more commonly found in prairies. Shooting Star, Birdsfoot Violet, Hoary Puccoon, Blue-eyed Grass, Prairie Dock and New Jersey Tea are among these plants.

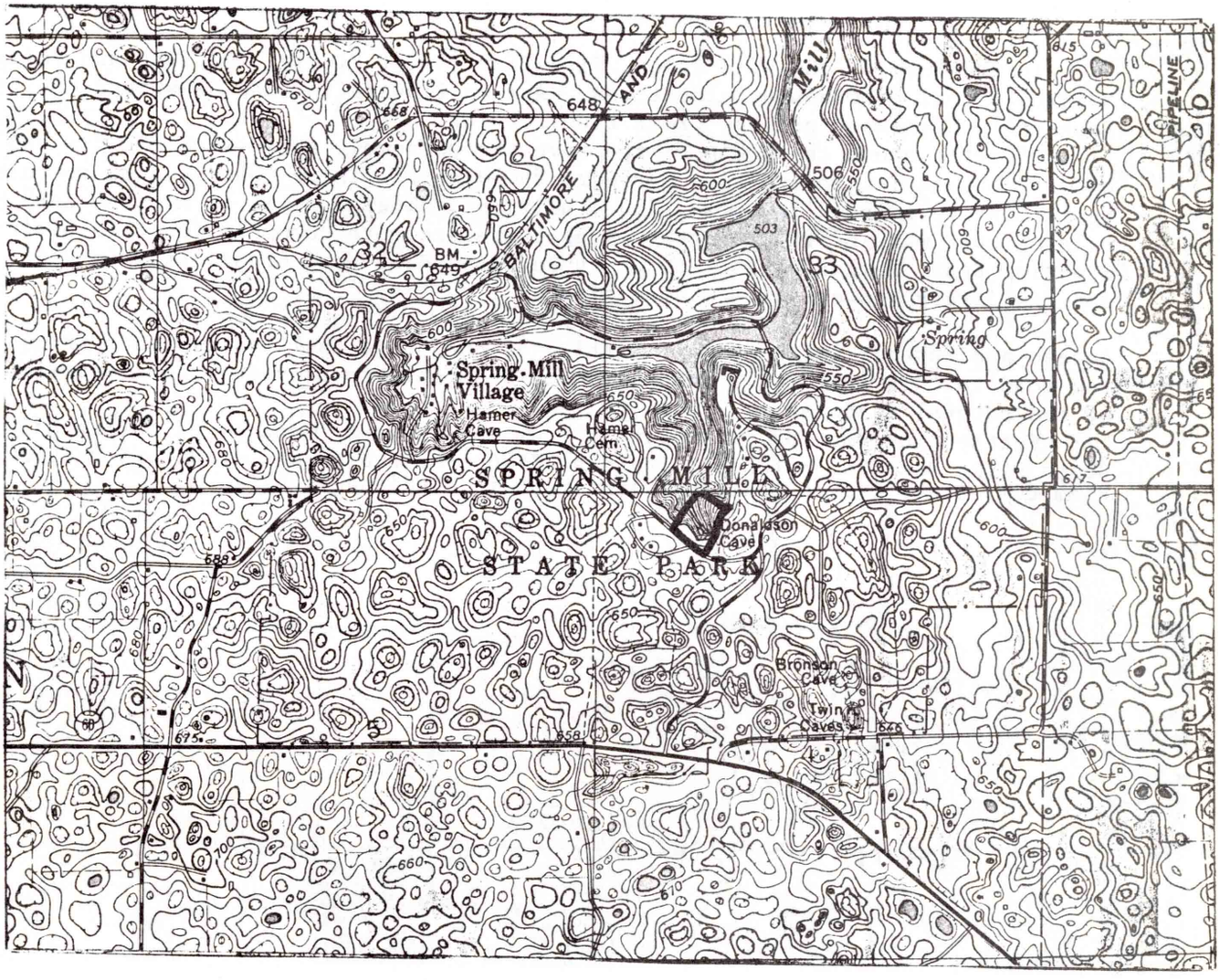
Access and further information: Trail 4 of the State Park system leads from the road to this area and a naturalist is available to provide interpretation of the natural features.

Further information is available from the property manager of Spring Mill State Park, Box 376, Mitchell, Indiana 47446 or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Donaldson Cave Nature Preserve

County: Lawrence
Size: 6 acres

Map: Mitchell Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: Donaldson Cave is located in Spring Mill State Park and is marked on the park map available at the gate house or park office.

Description: This six-acre Nature Preserve is located in Spring Mill State Park, around the mouth of Donaldson Cave.

The cave mouth is counted by many to be one of the most picturesque scenes that Indiana has to offer. Stream water flows from the cave and winds along the bottom gorge.

The slopes of this gorge support the type of forest typical of the Southern Indiana hill country. White Oak, Black Oak and Pignut Hickory occupy portions of the slope that are dry by reason of higher elevation or more direct exposure to sunlight. The lower-and more shaded-slopes are occupied by a mixture of Beech and Sugar Maple. The spring understory plants consist of Hepatica, Bloodroot, Twinleaf, Toothwort, Spring Beauty, Trout Lily, Bellflower and Nodding Trillium. Various speices of Violets dot the slopes in profusion.

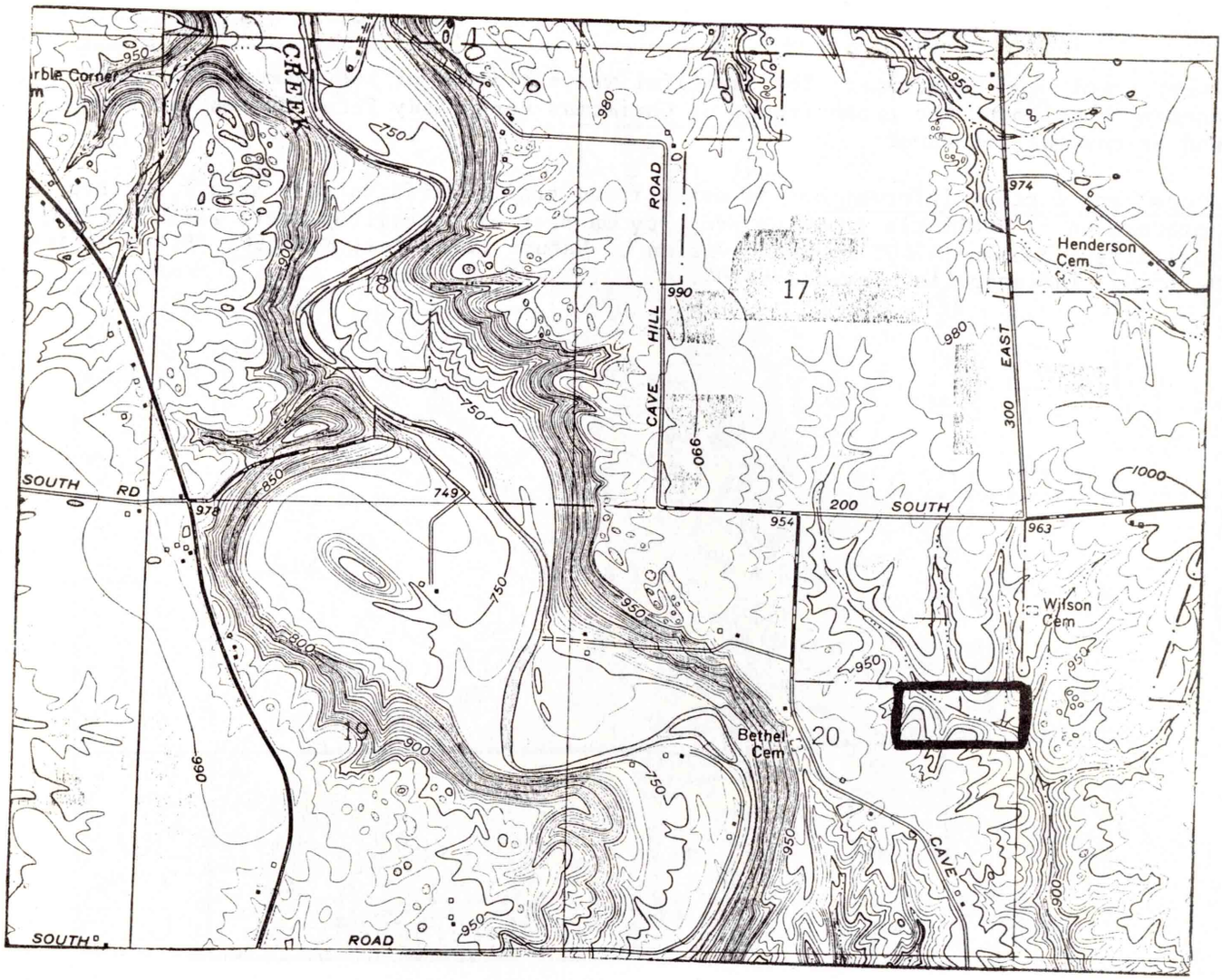
Sweet Cicely and Bedstraws. The beautiful white flowers of Rue Anemone and Wood Anemone complement the green fronds of Christmas Fern, Lady Fern, Maidenhair Fern and Narrowleaf Spleenwort.

Access and further information: No established trails exist in this area. Further information is available from the property manager of Versailles State Park, Box 205, Versailles, Indiana 47402 or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Dogwood Nature Preserve

County: Ripley
Size: 20 acres

Map: Milan Quadrangle
Ownership: State Parks



Location: This Nature Preserve is located in Versailles State Park and is outlined on the State Park Maps available at the gate house or park office.

Description: A small undisturbed old-age stand of hardwoods grows on a cool Northern slope in the Southern end of Versailles State Park. It was used for many years by the late Dr. John E. Potzger for Butler University field studies.

The High incidence of Flowering Dogwood, in the small tree and shrub classes, prompted the name for this Nature Preserve.

The forest composition is predominantly Beech and Maple, with the usual associations of White Ash, Wild Black Cherry, Black Walnut, Tulip, Red Oak, Hackberry, Basswood and some Shagbark Hickory. An unusually fine specimen of Sassafras, 29 inches in diameter, stands in the Northwestern corner.

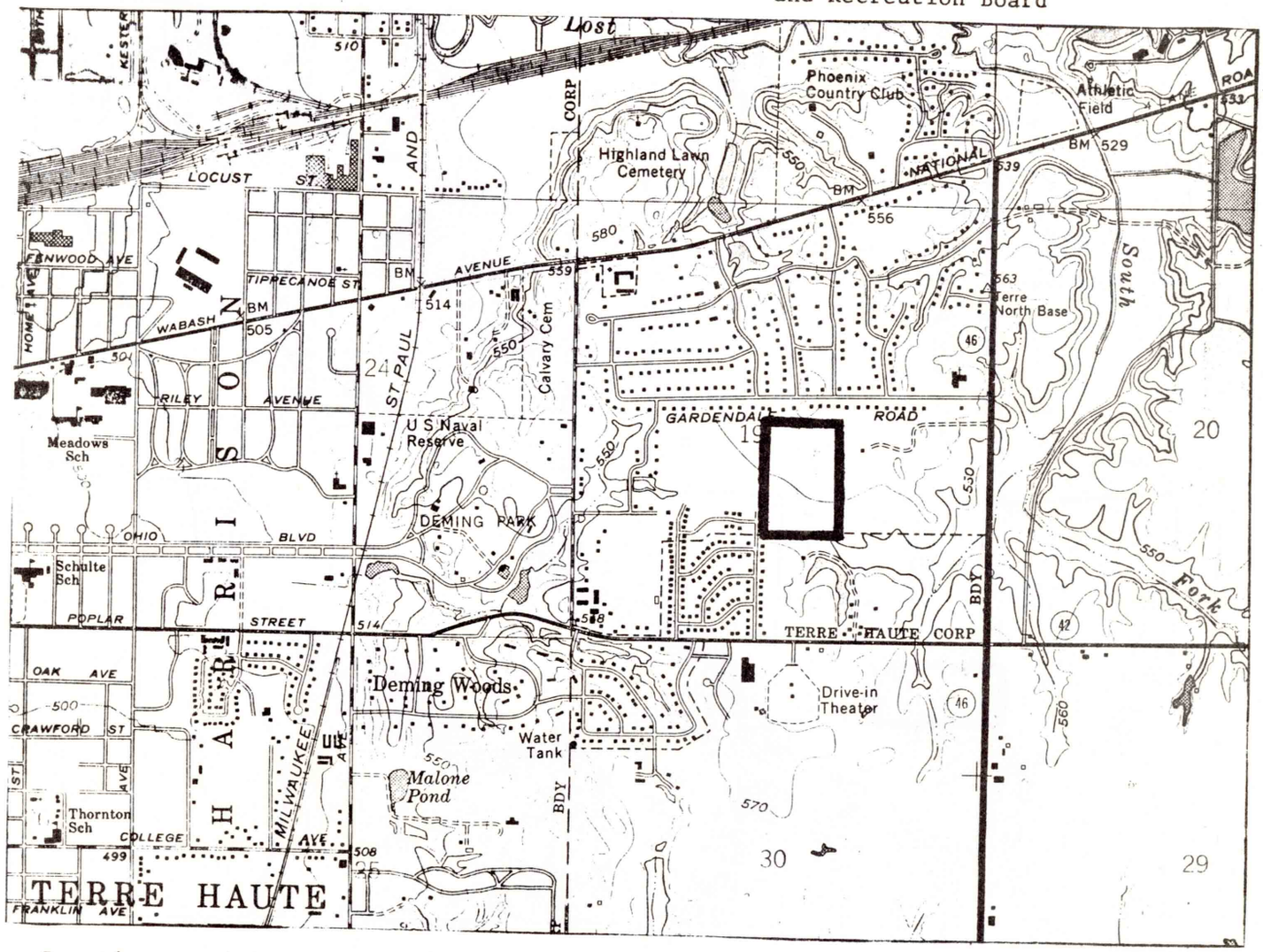
The Northeastern corner of the Preserve contains an old field in an advanced stage of succession with some Sugar Maple, Tulip, White Ash and Black Walnut, mixed with Red Cedar, Honey Locust and Sassafras.

In the old woods the herbaceous composition includes dense beds of May Apple,

John G. Dobbs Memorial Nature Preserve

County: Vigo
Size: 25 acres

Map: Seelyville Quadrangle
Ownership: Terre Haute City Park and Recreation Board



Location: This Nature Preserve is located East of Terre Haute at the junction of Poplar Street and State Highway 46.

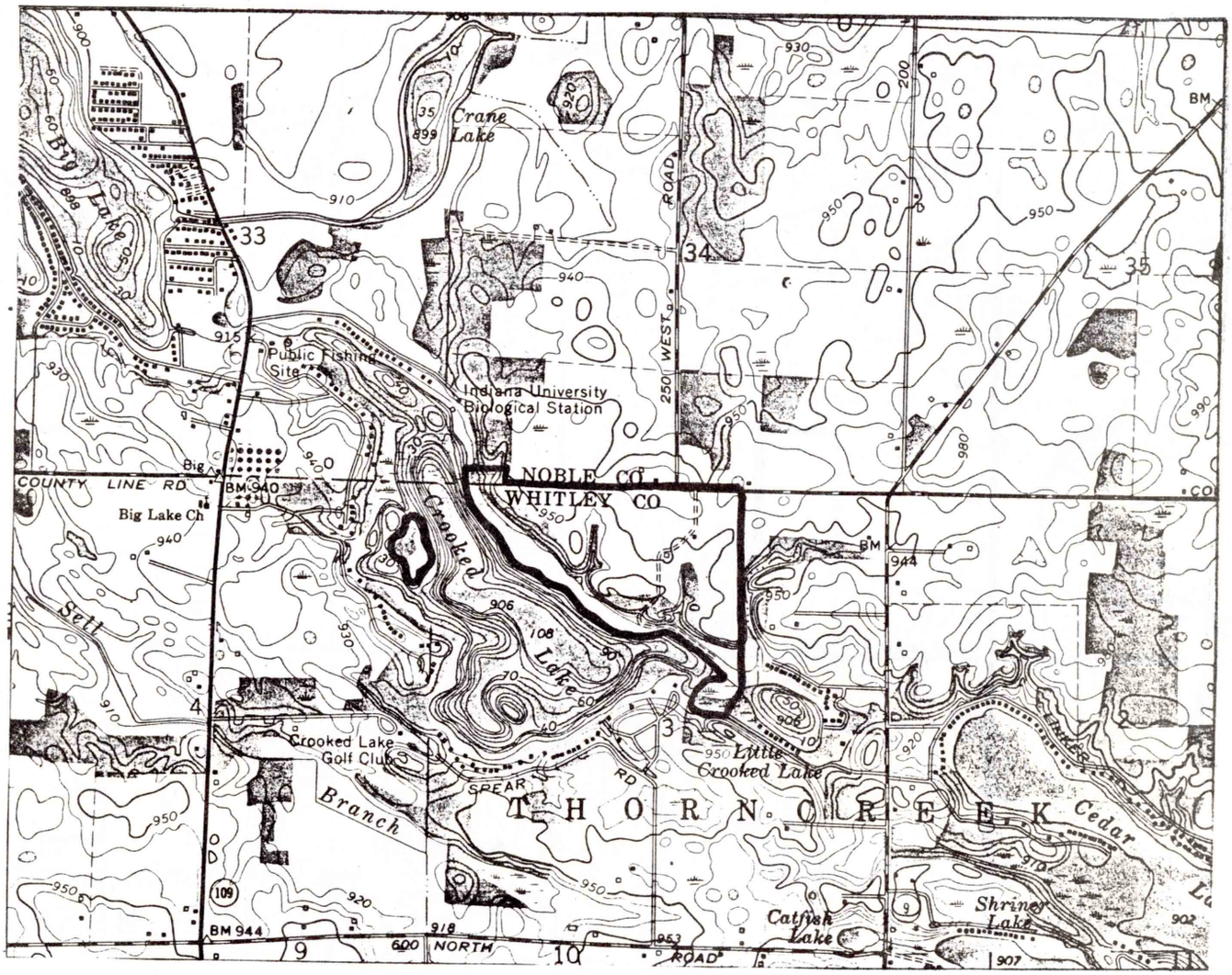
Description: This Nature Preserve is noteworthy for having a high tree species diversity in a comparatively small area. Moderate changes in elevation result in great differences in species composition. In lower areas, where the soil is wet, trees such as Swamp White Oak and Shellbark Hickory can be found. On ground a few feet higher, the soil is drier and a Beech-Maple forest is found. On still higher ground, Beech-Maple gives way to dry-site Oak-Hickory forest. These changes in forest type take place over only a few feet in elevation.

Access and further information: Established trails exist within this area. Further information may be obtained from the Terre Haute Park and Recreation Board, Room 218, City Hall, Terre Haute, Indiana or the Divison of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indainapolis, Indiana.

Crooked Lake Nature Preserve

County: Whitley
Size: 91 acres

Map: Merriam Quadrangle
Onership: Nature Preserves



Location: Follow State Highway 9 southwest from Merriam to the Noble-Whitley County line and thence west along the County Line Road to the first driveway South.

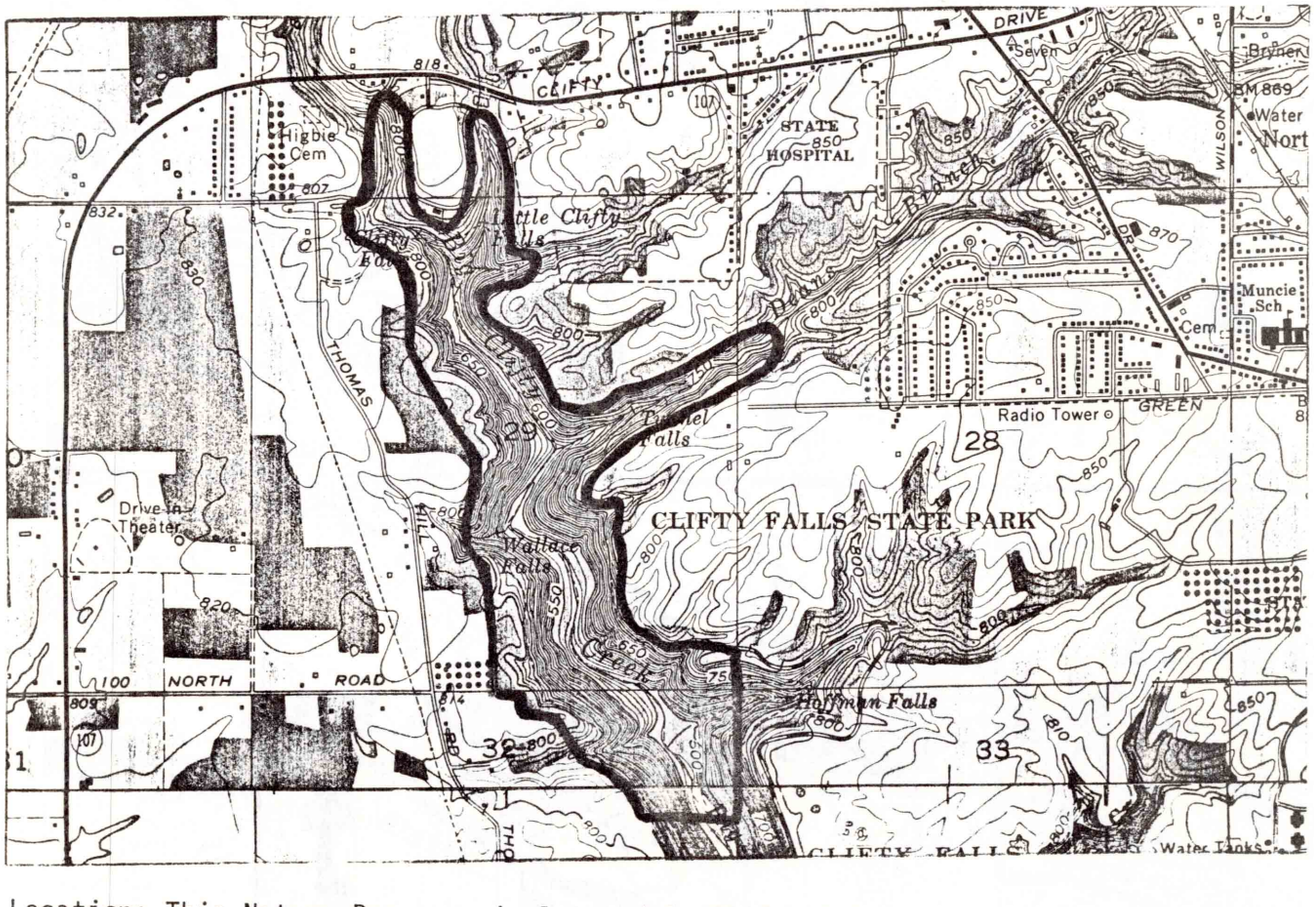
Description: This Nature Preserve contains one of the woodlands bordering a clear natural lake. The forested area is dominated by Beech and Sugar Maple associated with Green Ash, Shagbark Hickory, Red Oak, Sassafras, and White Oak. The understory consists of Sugar Maple, Ironwood, Green Ash, Beech and Flowering Dogwood. Wetland habitats exist along the shore and there is an island in the lake itself.

Access and further information: This Nature Preserve is presently undeveloped. Further information may be obtained from the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

CLIFTY CANYON NATURE PRESERVE

County: Jefferson
Size: 178.5 acres

Map: Clifty Falls and Madsion West Quad.
Ownership: State Parks



Location: This Nature Preserve is located in Clifty Falls State Park. It is not indicated on current park maps. However, information is available at the park office, gate house, or nature center.

Description: Clifty Canyon Nature Preserve has many interesting features. Small streams have cut deep gorges into ancient Ordovician rock beds. These rock exposures contain numerous fossils that provide considerable geologic interest. One of the main attractions of the Park are the spectacular waterfalls on the streams flowing through the nature preserve.

There are mesic forests on the lower slopes and ravine bottoms, and dry upland forests of oak and hickory on the upper slopes and ridge tops. In places steep ravines support undisturbed cliff communities of mosses, lichens, and ferns. Several rare plants are known to occur on undisturbed rock communities. Common wildflowers are widespread throughout the preserve.

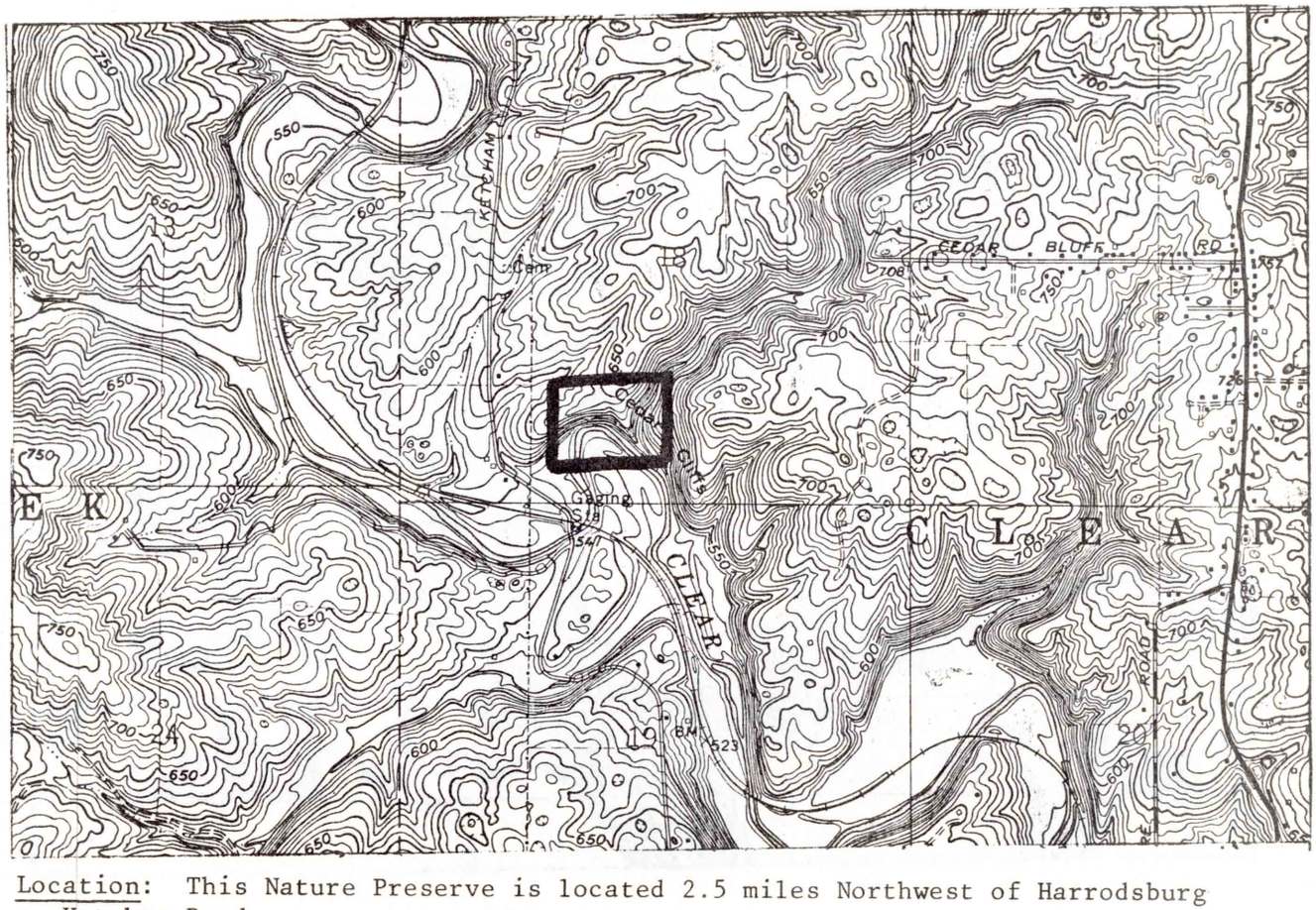
Access and futher information: Trails 1 through 8 of the State Park provide both long and short hikes through the preserve from several vantage points. A naturalist service is available at the park to provide interpretation of natural features.

Further information is available from the Property Manager of Clifty Falls State Park, Box 847, Madison, Indiana 47250 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

Cedar Bluffs Nature Preserve

County: Monroe
Size: 23 acres

Map: Clear Creek
Ownership: The Nature Conservancy, Indiana University



Location: This Nature Preserve is located 2.5 miles Northwest of Harrodsburg on Ketcham Road.

Description: This 23-acre Nature Preserve in Monroe County is owned by the Nature Conservancy and managed by Indiana University.

A high limestone bluff extends along a stretch of Clear Creek. A tributary valley cuts close behind it for a distance, creating a high, narrow promontory similar to a backbone.

The soil on top is very thin and few trees grow successfully there. As the name suggests, Red Cedar is the commonest tree. It shares this rocky spot with White Oak, Black Oak and Scarlet Oak. The understory is occupied by Wahoo, White Boneset, Goldenrod, Pussytoes and Lichens.

Below, a talus slope stretches from the base of the cliff to the edge of Clear Creek. In this damp, shady environment Sugar Maple, Butternut Hickory, Chinkapin Oak and Red Ash grow densely. Wildflowers are abundant on and between the rocks. Twinleaf, Bloodroot, Snow Trillium, Toothwort and Spring Beauty are abundant in Spring. Along the Creek margin, Virginia Cowslip, Phlox, Appendaged Waterleaf, and Fire Pink bloom in spring and early summer.

Access and further information: Cedar Bluffs is open to the public. The tract is leased to Indiana University for research and maintenance. Rock Climbing, rappelling, and campfires are prohibited. Further information may be obtained from The Nature Conservancy, RR #1, Box 155, Nashville, Indiana 47448, phone: 812-988-7547.

Waterleaf, Wild Cranesbill and other beautiful flowering plants.

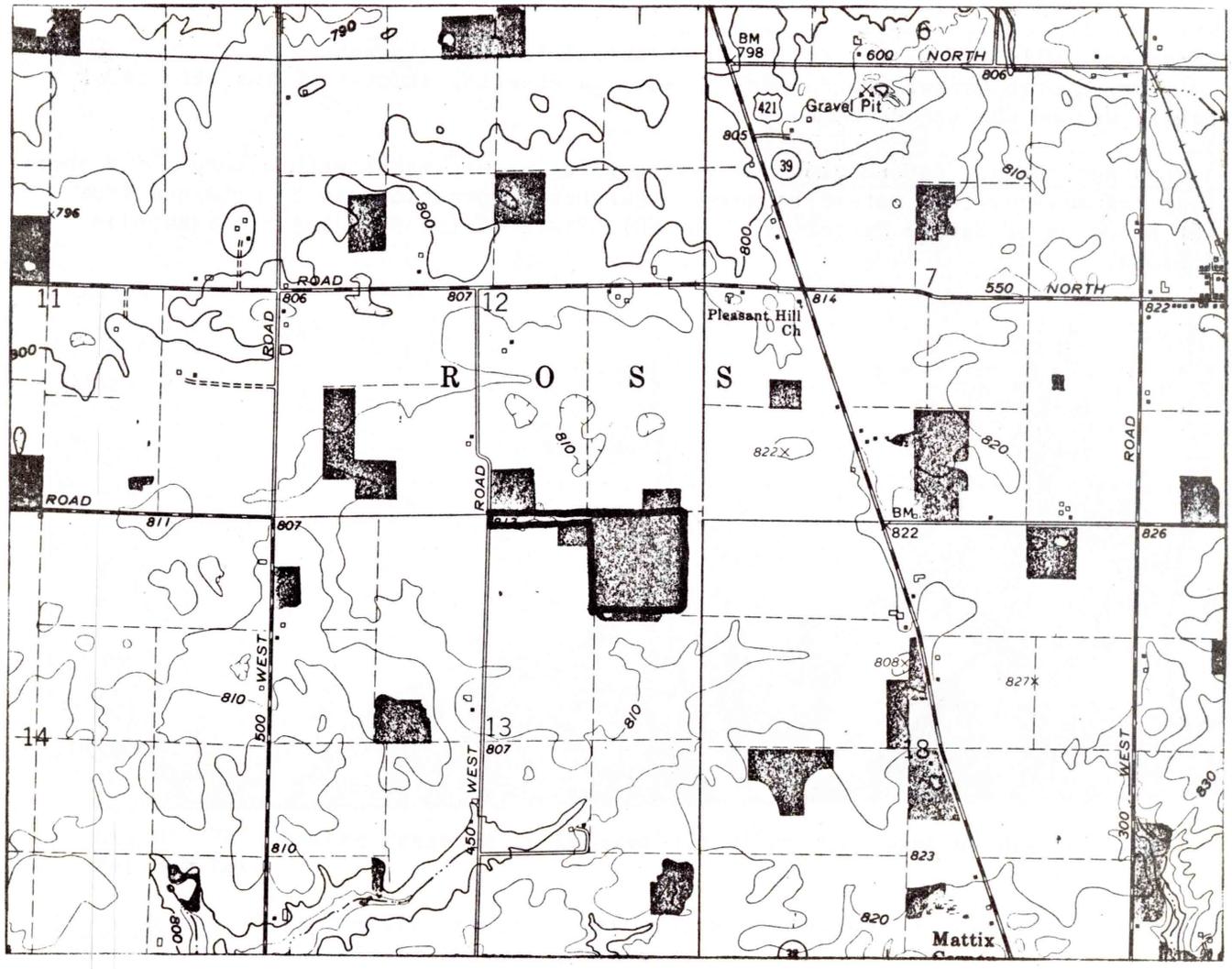
Dr. George Parker, Purdue University, is starting studies of the effects of public use on the native biota.

Access and further information: A self-guiding nature trail with a long and a short loop transverses this Nature Preserve. Further information may be obtained from the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Eunice Hamilton Bryan Nature Preserve

County: Clinton
Size: 29 acres

Map: Frankfort Quadrangle
Ownership: Nature Preserves



Location: Follow State Highway 38 about 7 miles Northwest of Frankfort and then turn North on County Road 450W to a marked parking area.

Description: The late Henry R. Smith bequeathed this property to the State of Indiana with the stipulations that it should be a memorial to his mother-in-law and should remain forever as refuge for wildlife and forestry purposes. The 30-acre Nature Preserve stands like an oasis surrounded by highly productive farmland.

Giant White Oaks, four feet in diameter, are found with large red Oaks, Beech, Basswood and Shagbark Hickory on drier sites. Smaller poorly-drained spots have Pin Oak, Bur Oak and Red Maple.

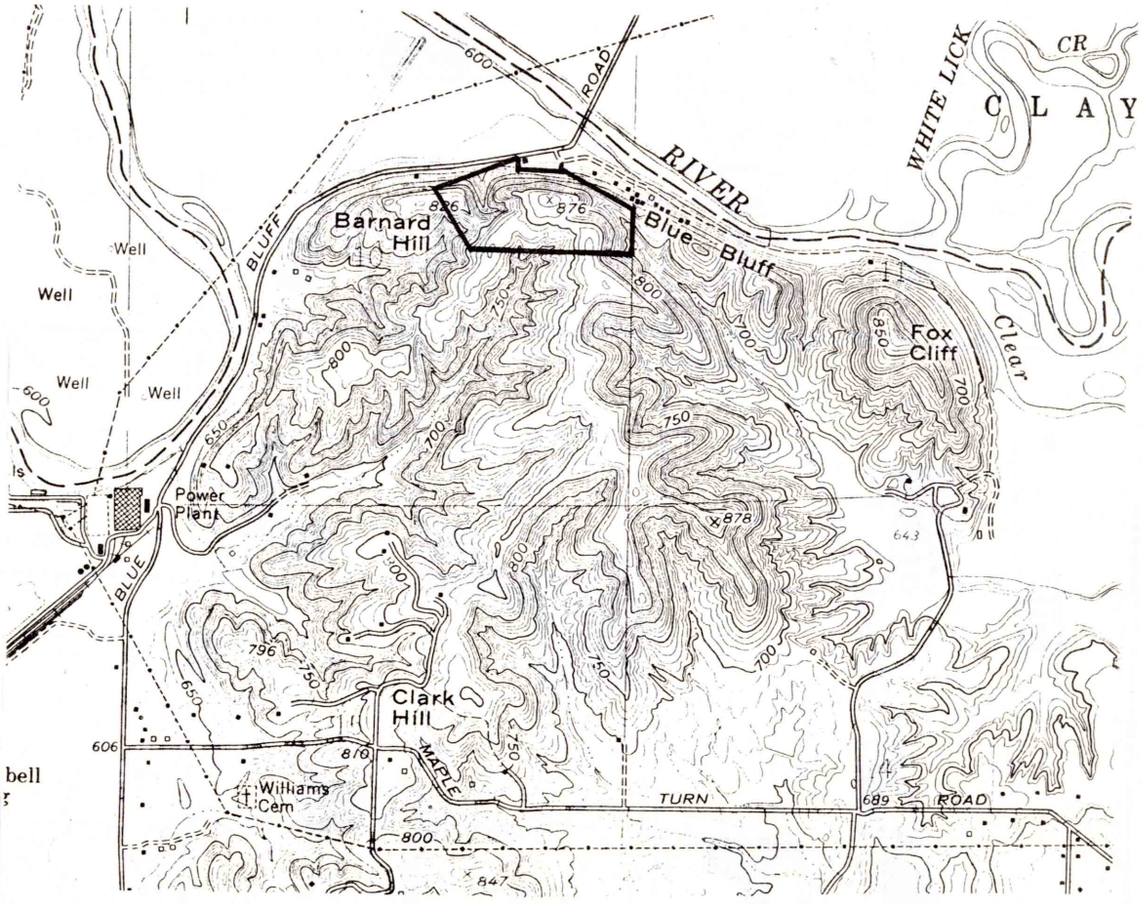
Spicebush, Poison Ivy, Greenbrier, Black Haw, and Pawpaw are common shrubs in drier portions, while Buttonbush and Winterberry surround a small pond.

Spring wild flowers are represented by Yellow Troutlily, Dutchman's Breeches, Toothwort, and Spring Beauty. These are soon followed by Wild Phlox, Virginia

BLUE BLUFF NATURE PRESERVE

County: Morgan
Size: 32 acres

Quad: Martinsville
Ownership: The Nature Conservancy



Location: From the junction of County Roads 150 East and 600 North at Centerton, go Southwest one and one-half miles. Use the small parking lot after crossing the bridge.

Description: This 32-acre Nature Preserve in Morgan County is situated on a range of river hills bordering the West Fork of White River. The particular hill, known as Blue Bluff, was created during the Mississippian Period. One portion, East of this tract, is too steep to support vegetation, thus exposing the blue siltstone for which it is named. The small Nature Preserve has a difference of 220 feet in elevation. The top of the ridge offers a beautiful panoramic view of the tree-lined river and adjacent valley.

Red Oak is the dominant tree. Its mixture with Hickories, Sugar Maple, Beech, Tulip and Ash creates an interesting slope forest. The occurrence of Flowering Raspberry on outwashes of blue siltstone is of particular interest. This plant, with beautiful purple flowers and Maple-shaped leaves, is reported from only five other Counties in the State.

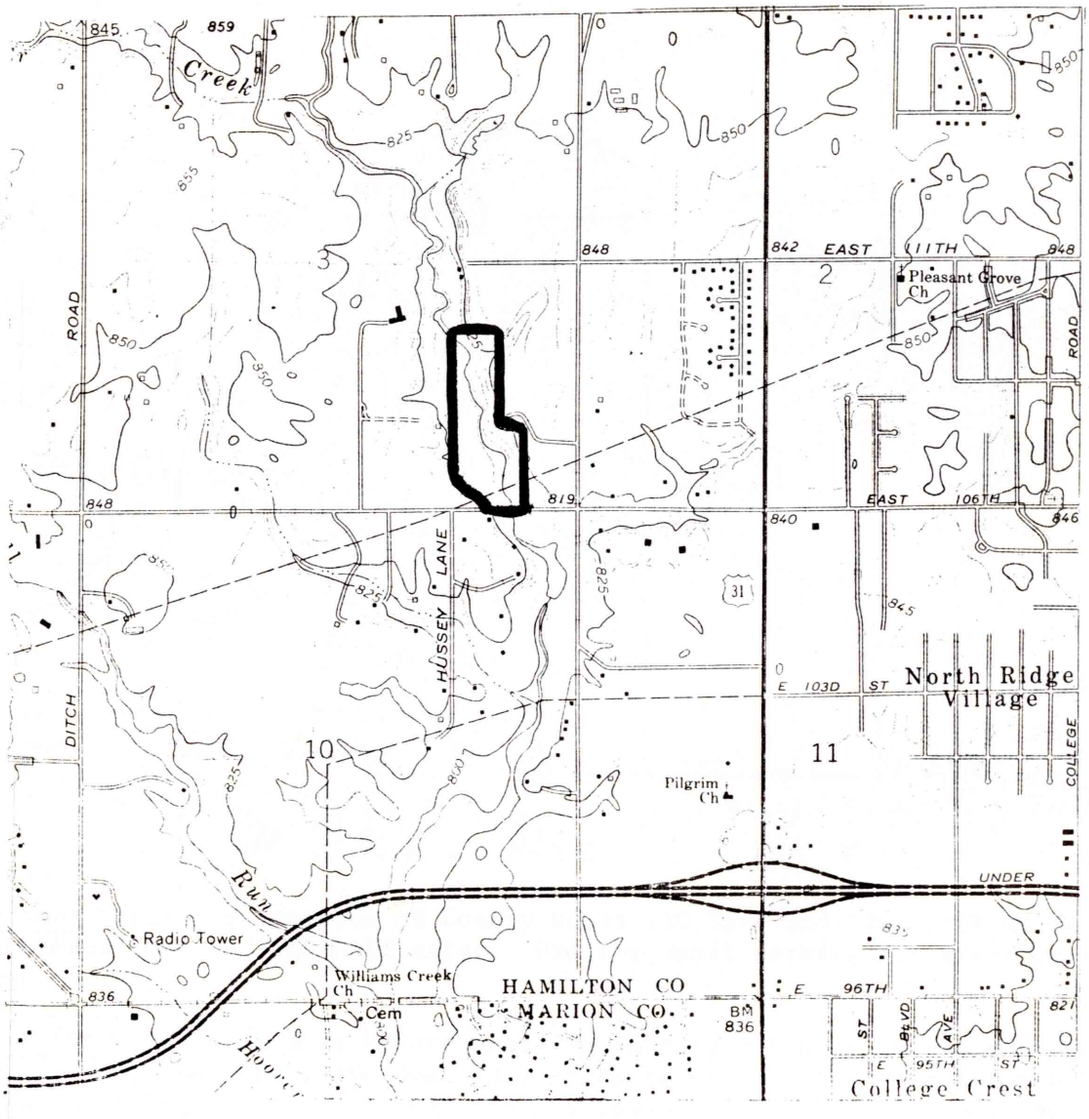
The Nature Conservancy, a national preservation organization with offices in Arlington, Virginia, owns this site. It is maintained by the Indiana Chapter.

Access and further information: There are presently no established trails in this area and visitation is by appointment only. Further information may be obtained from The Nature Conservancy, Indiana Chapter, R.R.# 1, Box 155, Nashville, Indiana 47448, phone 812-988-7547.

BITTERNUT WOODS NATURE PRESERVES

County: Hamilton
Size: 22 acres

Quad: Carmel
Ownership: The Nature Conservancy



Description: In this Nature Preserve, Williams Creek meanders through a narrow valley. A second-growth forest on the floodplain and adjoining terrace has scattered large specimens of Beech, Bitternut Hickory, Sycamore, Oaks and Blue Ash. One Bur Oak measures 53 inches D.B.H. (diameter breast high). A Chinquapin Oak measures 45 inches, a Red Oak 46 inches, and a Blue Ash 30 inches.

At this stage in the transition of a former woods pasture it contains large colonies of Spring wildflowers, including Wild Ginger, Appendaged Waterleaf, May Apple and Bloodroot.

The preservation of such small tracts, as green spaces with a good diversity of Natural features, becomes increasingly important in a burgeoning urban area.

Access and further information: Bitternut is presently open to the public. Further information may be obtained from The Nature Conservancy , R.R.# 1, Box155, Nashville, Indiana 47448, phone: 812-988-7547 or by calling Fritz Lieber at 846-0780.

accomplished through the assistance of The Nature Conservancy. The donors lead field trips through the preserve for local school classes.

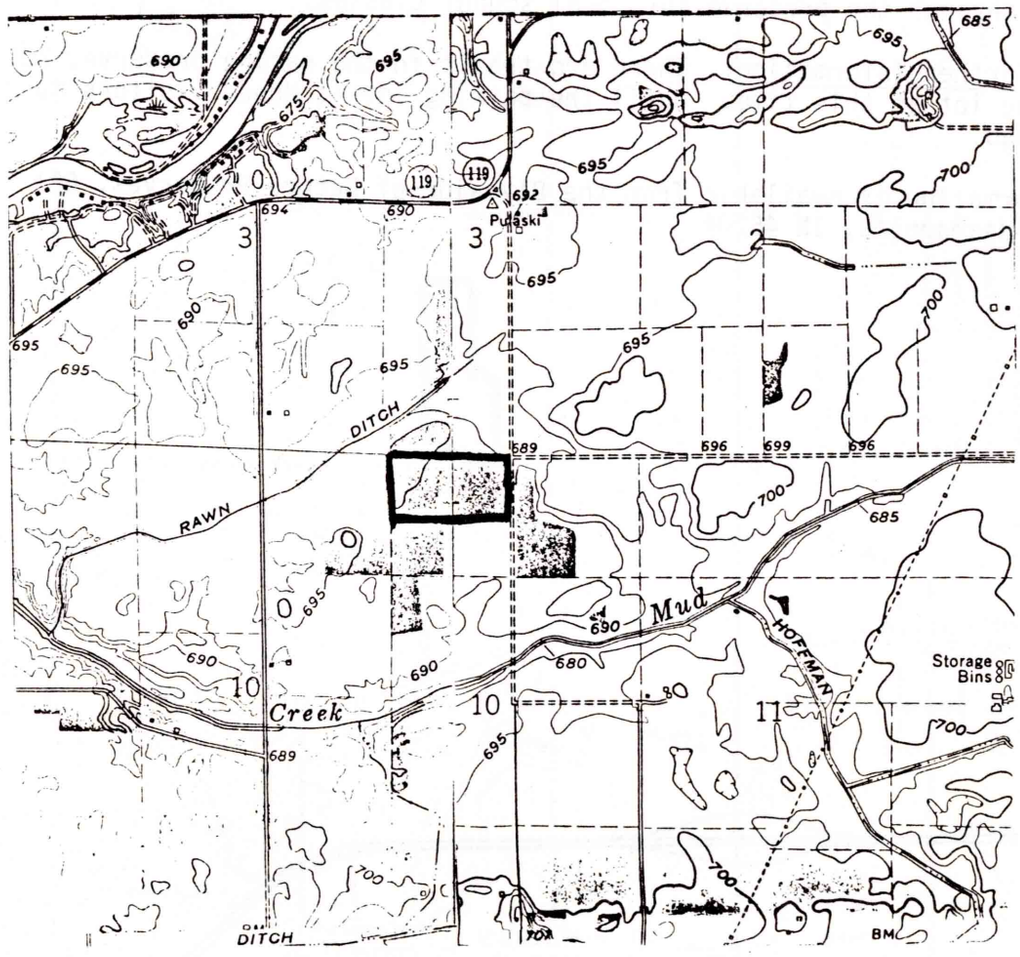
Access and Further Information: There are trails in the nature preserve, but there is no parking lot at this time. Until the parking lot is done, visitors must park along the road.

Further information is available from the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

BERNS-MEYER NATURE PRESERVE

County: Pulaski
Size: 20 acres

Map: Buffalo and Star City Quardrangles
Ownership: Nature Preserves



Location: From the Tippecanoe River bridge at Pulaski take State Road 119 northeast approximately 2.3 miles to a gravel road thence south .6 miles.

Description: Berns-Meyer Nature Preserve contains two major tree cover types that are related to soil types and soil moisture. Most of the area is mixed mesophytic woodland with red oak, white oak, tulip tree, sugar maple, basswood and shagbark hickory as important tree species. In the poorly drained areas black ash, red maple, pin oak, and swamp white oak become important components.

Spring wildflowers are abundant and include spring beauty, bloodroot, and marsh marigold as well as the unusual green dragon. Later in the season asters, jewelweed, and Indian pipes are among the many species that may be found.

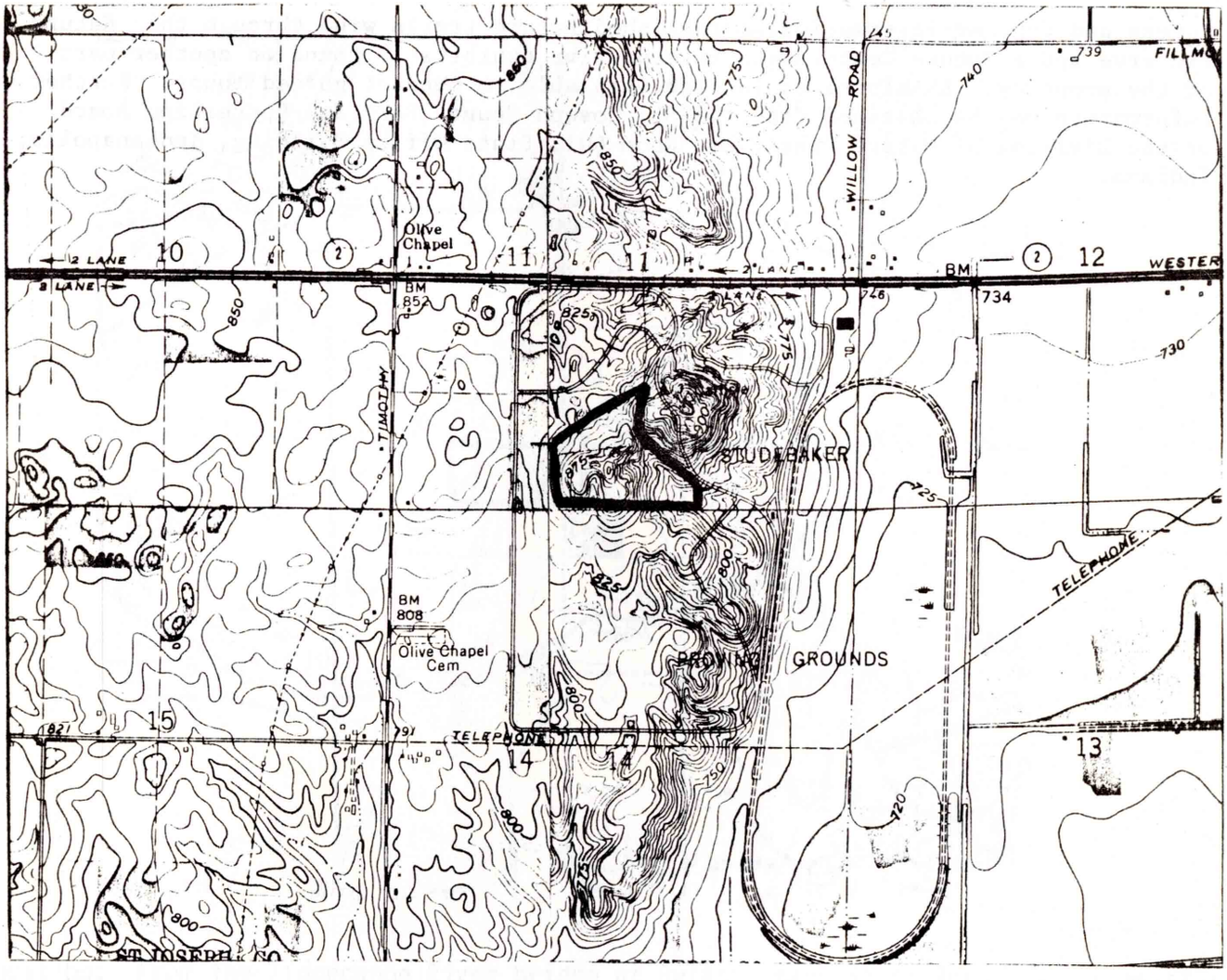
The preserve was a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Orville Berns and Mr. and Mrs. V.R. Meyer to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Nature Preserves. This was

Access and further information: Established nature trails wind through this Nature Preserve and a Nature Center with interpretive exhibits is found on another part of the property. A Naturalist is also avialable to conduct guided tours. Further information may be obatined from the St. Joseph County Park and Recreation Board or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Bendix Woods Nature Preserves

County: St. Joseph
Size: 27 acres

Map: Lydick Quadrangle
Ownership: St.Joseph County Park & Recreation Board



Location: Bendix Woods is located 10 miles West of South Bend on the South side of State Highway 2.

Description: In 1966 the Bendix Corporation gave 175 acres to the St. Joseph County Park and Recreation Board. It had formerly been part of Studebaker Proving Ground. Most of this gift park is used for all types of outdoor recreation. However, one corner containing 27 acres has a woods with Large Beech, Sugar Maple, Red Elm and Basswood. This oustanding natural area has been set aside for walking and observing only.

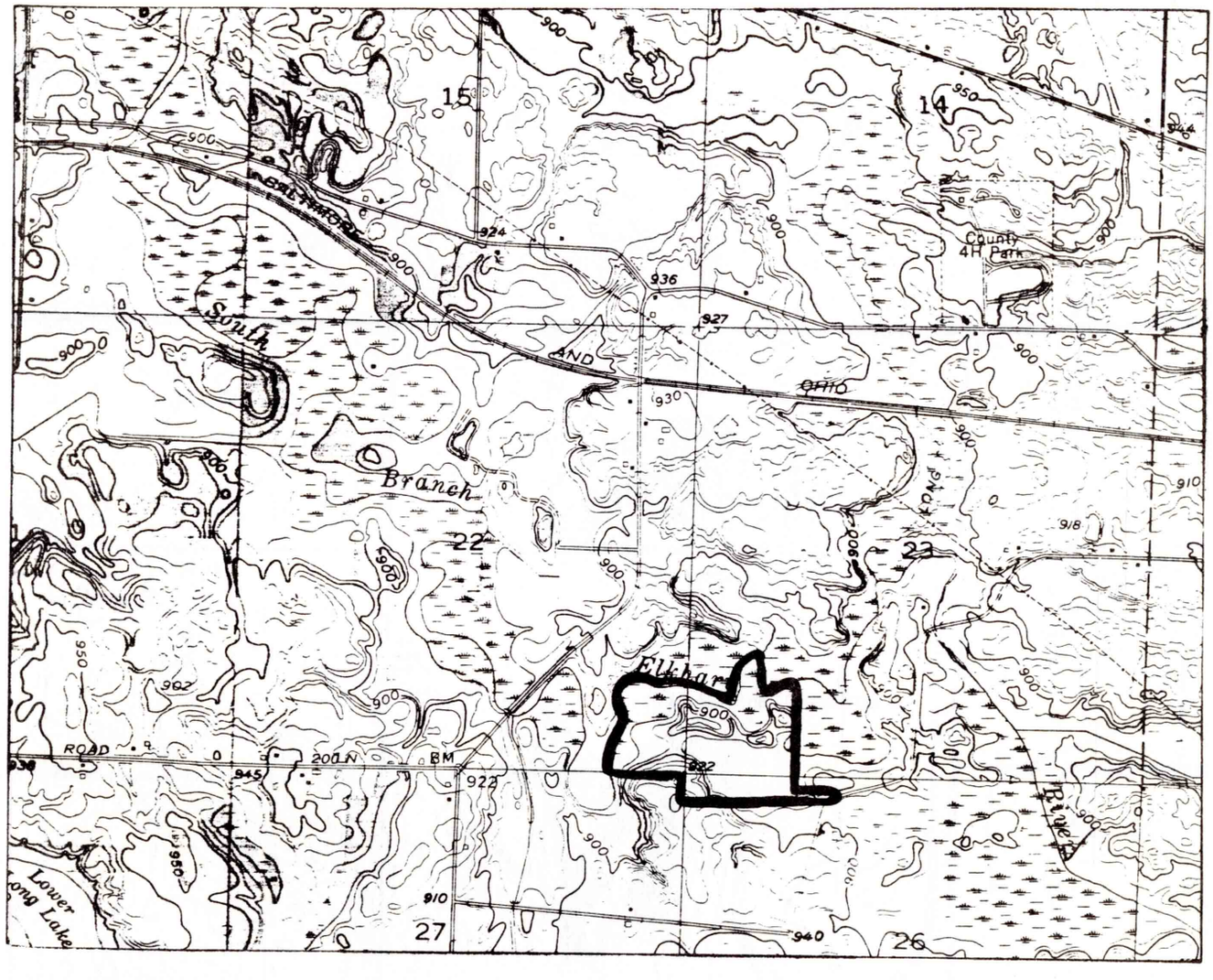
Persons will remain on paths that wind through an understory of Spicebush and Pawpaw and Lianas of Woodbine climbing the tall trees.

In moist spots there are dense growths of jewelweed and nettle. Solomon's Seal, Wild Ginger, Sanicle, Running Euonymus, Blue Cohosh and Ferns are some of the plants found along the upper trail.

Lloyd W. Bender Nature Preserve

County: Noble
Size: 60 acres

Map: Albion Quadrangle
Ownership: Acres, Inc.



Location: This tract is two miles Southwest of Albion. Take the River Road west from State Road 9 to the entrance sign and follow a trail to the woods.

Description: This Memorial Forest in Noble County was given to Acres, Inc., a not-for-profit preservation corporation by LLoyd W. Bender.

The South Branch of the Elkhart River and its floodplain form the North and West boundaries of the 60-acre Nature Preserve. The combination of swamp forest, ponded wetlands and upland ridges, along with old fields reverting to woody vegetation, provides a wide diversity of plant and animal communities.

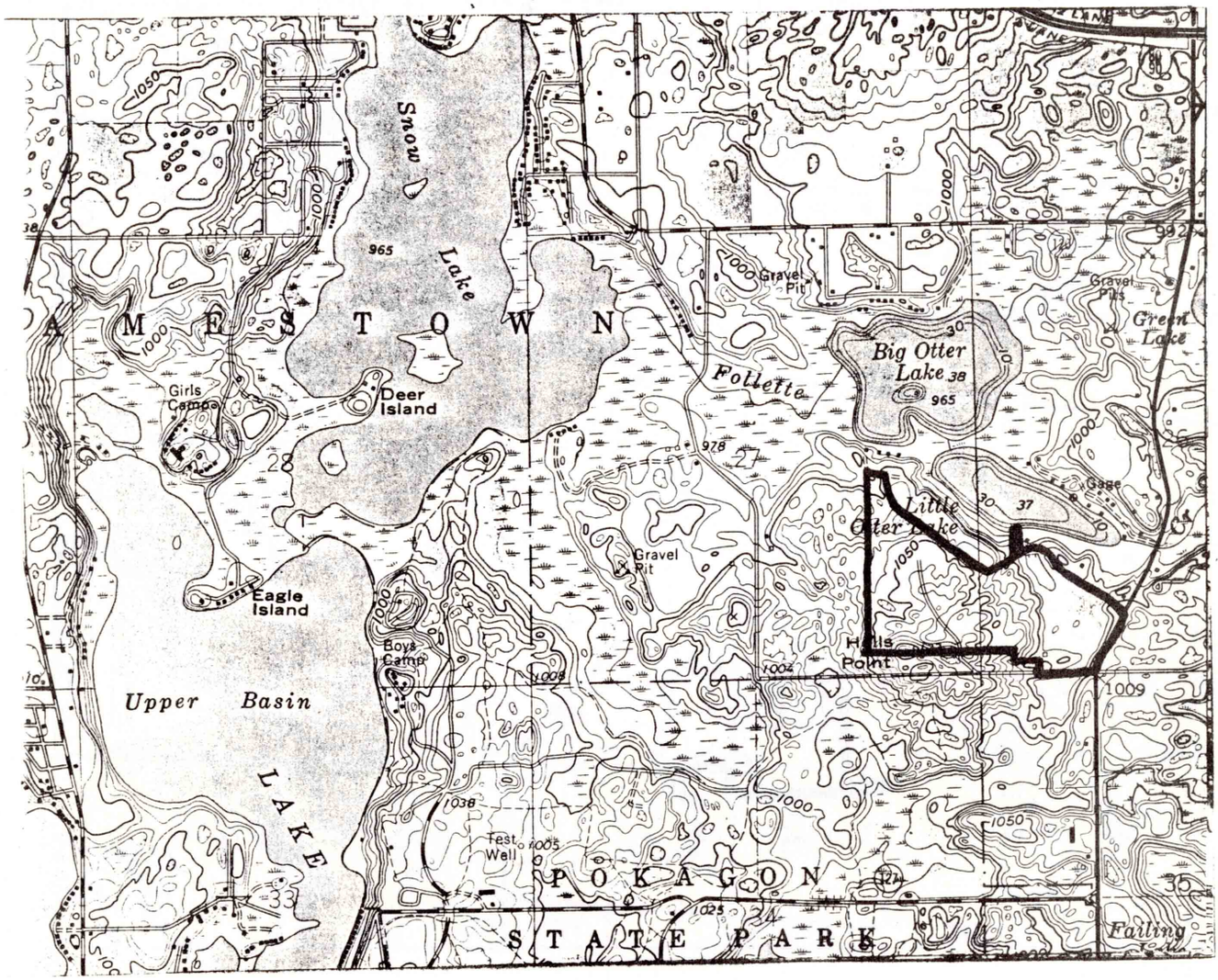
Low ground trees include Silver Maple, Green and Black Ashes, Swamp White Oak, Cottonwood, American Elm and Box Elder. Shrubs are Swamp Rose, Dogwoods and Poison Ivy. Stinging Nettles is the dominant herb. Upland morainal ridges primarily support second-growth stands of Shagbark Hickory, Red Oak, Red Elm, Tulip and Green Ash.

Access and further information: Nature trails exist in this Nature Preserve. Further information may be obtained from Acres, Inc., 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Beechwood Nature Preserve

County: Steuben
Size: 89 acres

Map: Angola West Quadrangle
Ownership: Acres, Inc.



Location: This Nature Preserve is located west of Interstate 69, on old U.S. Highway 27, North of the entrance to Pokagon State Park.

Description: The Northeast slope of this tract has a second growth of Beech-Maple. However, it is more significant as a depressional site with a variety of habitats drained by a small stream that empties into nearby Little Otter Lake.

A part of the muck soil supports a stand of Yellow Birch, Red Maple, Cork Elm and Blue Beech. Dense thickets of Red Osier and Pale and Gray Dogwoods, occupy more open areas, along with Poison Sumac, Elderberry and Spicebush. One small ponded portion has Cattails and Sedges rimmed with Black Willow, Pussy Willow and Swamp Dogwoods.

This is the first privately-owned property to be included in the statewide system of dedicated Nature Preserves. It was given by Mildred and Garnette Foster to Acres, Inc., a non-profit preservation organization with headquarters at 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana.

Access and further information: Marked foot trails and foot bridges over wet ground permit visitors to traverse the tract at a leisurely pace. Further information may be obtained from Acres, Inc., 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana 46748 or the Division of Nature Preserves, 601 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

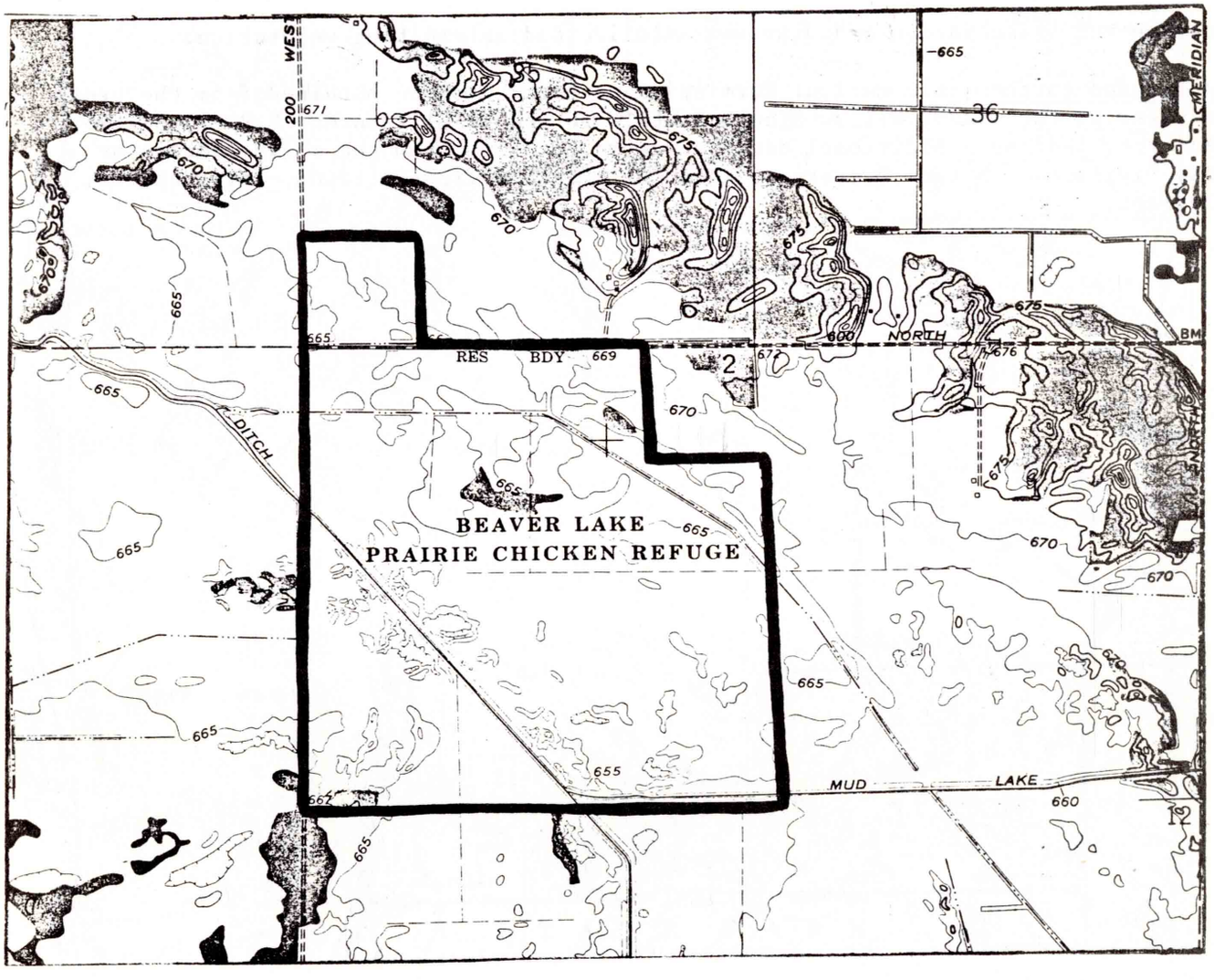
refuge for preservation of indigenous wildlife and interesting vegetation.

Access and further information: Permission to enter must be obtained from the area manager at the nearby Willow Slough State Fish and Wildlife Area, R.R.#1, Box 28, Morocco, Indiana. Additional details may be obtained from the above address or the Division of Nature Preserves, Room 601, State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Beaver Lake Nature Preserve

County: Newton
Size: 640 acres

Map: Enos Quadrangle
Ownership: Fish and Wildlife


WEST
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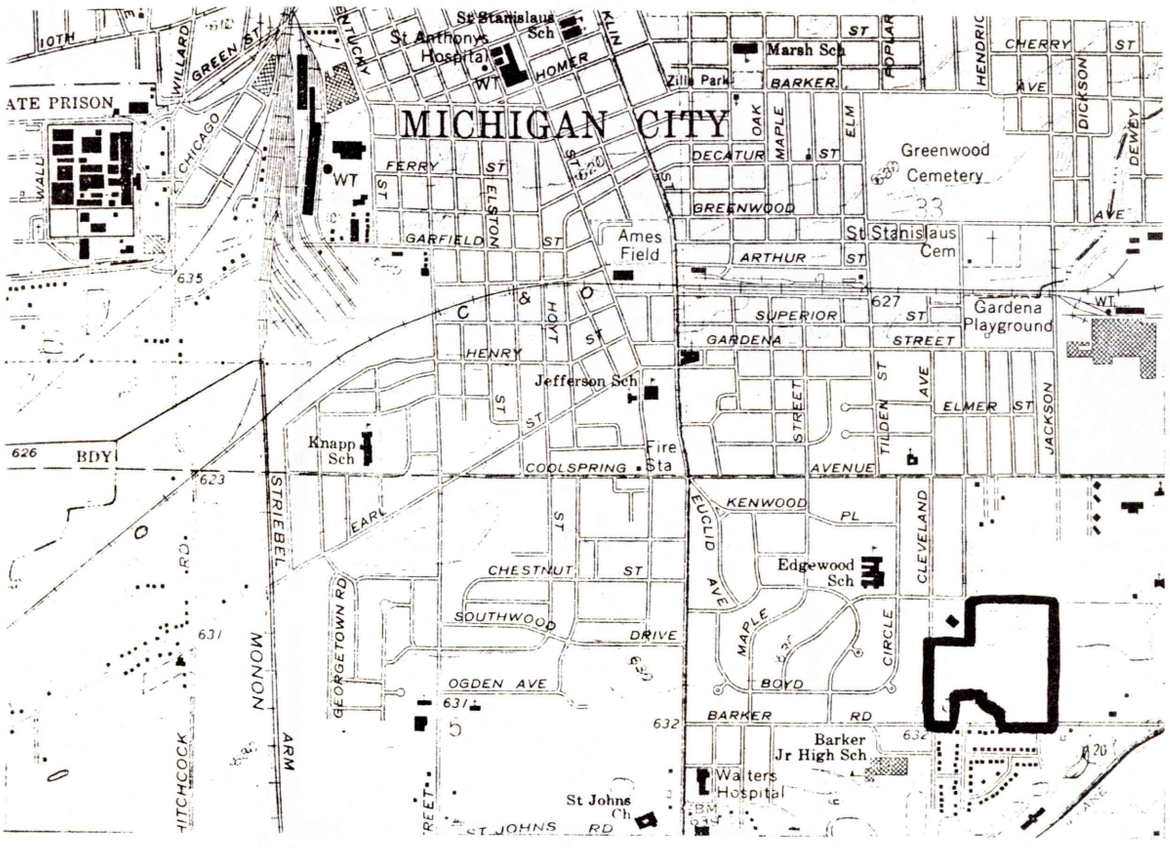
BARKER WOODS NATURE PRESERVE

County: LaPorte
Size: 32 acres

Quad: Michigan City West
Ownership: The Nature Conservancy



Description: This Nature Preserve is an example of a wooded tract in a low depression bordered by sandy slopes. This 32-acre green oasis in LaPorte County is surrounded by Michigan City.

Many trees, shrubs and flowers are of Northern affinity. Gray and Yellow Birches grow in peaty deposits, but Pin Oak and Red Maple are the major trees. Plantations of Scotch, Jack and Red Pines have been placed in higher ground adjacent to natural stands with White, Black, and Red Oaks, and Black Gum, Tulip, Beech and Sugar Maple.

Blueberry and Huckleberry bushes, Chokeberry, Witchhazel, and Gray Dogwood are typical representatives of shrubs similar to those found in depressions back of the dunes bordering the Lake Michigan shore in Indiana and to the North in Michigan. Likewise, Cinnamon and Royal Ferns, Canada Mayflower, Indian Cucumberroot, Canada Cinquefoil and Skunk Cabbage grow in moist ground. Bracken Fern blanket dryer soil, with associated species of False Solomon's Seal, Asters, Wild Lettuce and Goldenrods.

Access and further information: This area is not presently open to the public and visitation is by permission only for research related to ecological study. Further information may be obtained from The Nature Conservancy, R.R.# 1, Box 155, Nashville, Indiana 47448, phone: 812-988-7547

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